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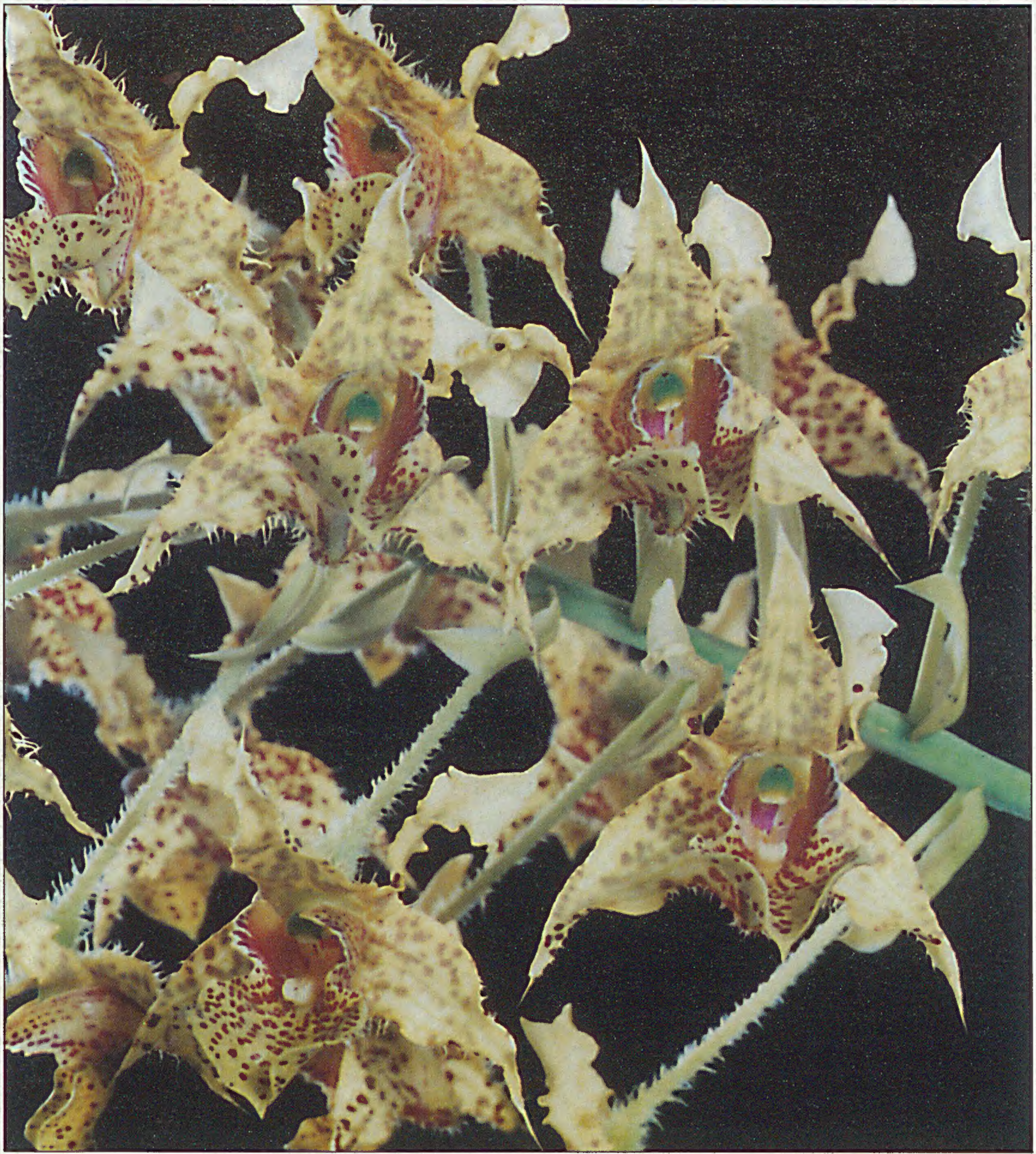
The Orchadian

Volume 13, Number 3 www.anos.org.au March 2000

Official Journal of the Australasian Native Orchid Society



R. Roe

Dendrobium polysema

A member of Section *Latouria*, from Papua New Guinea

From the Editor...

Australian orchidology lost an enthusiastic worker in Ralph Crane on 13/12/99. Ironically Ralph had only recently sent me what would be his last paper, on the "Orchids of Fraser Island". It appears in this issue, along with the description of a new *Genoplesium* species named in his honour.

In Vol.12 No.8, (June 1998) of *The Orchadian*, I had an article on albino Australian orchids. In this issue are photos of some further examples.

As readers would know, *Dendrobium* Yondi Tina 'Goliath' FCC/AOC-NSW, FCC/ANOS again won the Ira Butler Gold Award for owner Bernie Fletcher. A number of photos and story on this plant appeared in the December 1999 issue of the *Australian Orchid Review*. These are sought after awards, which always receive a large number of quality entries. Congratulations to Bernie, and to Norm & Kay Mitchell, who won the Bill Murdoch Trophy with their *Dendrobium tetragonum* 'Bellingen'. A full report starts on page 106.

Congratulations also to John Woolf (of Florafest Orchids) for winning the Australian Orchid Councils "Award of Distinction" of the year with *Dendrobium* Avril's Gold 'Florafest' HCC-AD/AOC-QOS. This plant featured on the front cover of the December 1999 issue of *Orchids Australia*. Very nice colour, but personally I was surprised it received a quality award (HCC) as it certainly has some problems with its lateral sepals. There has been a proliferation of awards for native orchids from Queensland over the past couple of years, sadly very few of these are submitted for higher consideration in the annual Ira Butler Awards. Hopefully we may be able to get photographs of some of these to showcase in upcoming issues of *The Orchadian*.

Orchidaceous Books are again trading, with new owners Grahame and Margaret Muller from Queensland. Sadly Grant Smith and Christine had to sell the business after Grant's accident. In Australia, we are fortunate to have both Orchidaceous Books and the Australian Orchid Foundation as suppliers of fine orchid texts.

Unfortunately, the introduction of the GST facilitates the increase of subscriptions by $5. Projections show that for the year 2000/2001, the old fees would simply not cover the cost of production of this journal.

David P. Banks
Editor, *The Orchadian*
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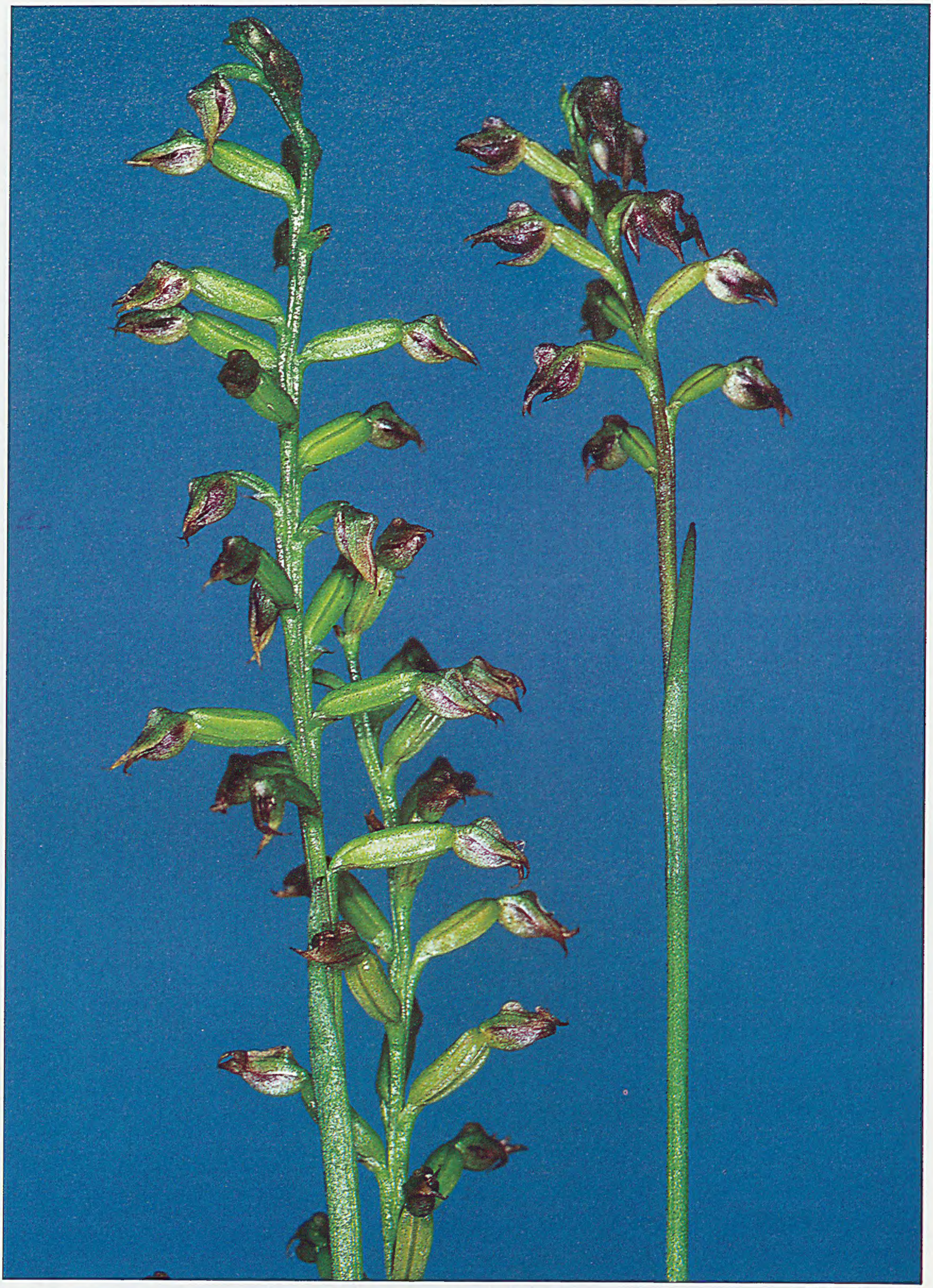

M.A. Clements

Genoplesium cranei

From the type location at Mapleton State Forest, Queensland.

Vale – Ralph Crane (1938-1999)

Australian orchidology lost a great character and important botanical collector with the recent passing of Cyril Ralph Crane (known popularly as Ralph) on 13th December 1999.

Born in Stanthorpe, Ralph spent his childhhood on his parents' fruit and vegetable farm at Applethorpe. At age sixteen the family moved to Taringa and shortly after he became apprenticed to a local builder and later became self-employed, constructing houses around Brisbane. In the mid 1970's he became interested in orchids and joined the Native Orchid Society of Queensland, the John Oxley District Orchid Society and the Species Orchid Society. Shortly after he began to take more of a scientific interest beginning with the orchids local to the Brisbane region and later extending his activities much further afield.

Ralph, who proudly described himself as a "bushie", was self-taught in the field of native orchids. At first his interest centred on gathering plants for cultivation, but then he moved to more scientific pursuits, gathering specimens for the collections at the Queensland Herbarium and the Australian National Botanic Gardens in Canberra. He also carried out a detailed survey of the orchids of Brisbane Forest Park, during which he discovered the recently described *Pterostylis scoliosa*. Many of his scientific endeavours were supported by funds from the Australian Orchid Foundation and it was apparent to the directors from an early stage that Ralph was not only extremely good value for the money spent but also the discoveries he made were of great importance. Ralph also received some funds from the Native Orchid Society of Queensland.

Ralph had a hunger to learn and travelled thousands of kilometres over the back roads of Queensland in his pursuit of orchids, often sleeping in the back of his four wheel drive. He visited coastal districts and islands such as Fraser Island and Moreton Island and climbed numerous peaks including Mount Ballow and Mount Maroon. He was the first to carry out any real systematic recording of the orchids of inland national parks such as Salvator Rosa and Mount Moffatt, discovering a remarkable new *Pterostylis* sp. aff. *woollsii* in the process. Ralph had a penchant for turning up new species and interesting records. In all he made over 3000 herbarium collections which were distributed to both the Queensland Herbarium and the Australian National Herbarium, Canberra. Included are some thirty new taxa, most of which await formal description.

Ralph was tenacious in his pursuit of goals as illustrated by the long, convoluted and dogged battle he had with bureauracy to obtain the necessary collecting permits for forestry and national parks. He was also highly successful in following tenuous leads such as old herbarium records. There is no better example of this than his rediscovery of *Diuris parvipetala* at the type-site of Brigooda (for his colourful account of this rediscovery see *The Orchadian* 12(7): 298-300 (1998). A number of his collections were based on leads from people who approached him after word of his quest for orchids spread.

Ralph's loss will be keenly felt. Deepest sympathy is extended to his wife June and their children Diane, Stephen and Judith. In finishing I can do no better than quote from a recent letter received from June. " Ralph had so many plans for more trips and all this cut short by wretched cancer. He was lucky to have achieved so much in his orchid life; admittedly he worked hard for it and gave it his all. I am very happy that he was able to do what he loved and only hope it has in some small way helped orchid research in Australia." There is no doubt about that! His contribution to our knowledge of the distribution and diversity of Queensland orchids is immense and is unlikely to be surpassed.

David L. Jones
Australian National Herbarium, Canberra.

Genoplesium cranei, A New Species of Orchidaceae from South-eastern Queensland

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Abstract

Genoplesium cranei D.L. Jones, from south-eastern Queensland, is described and illustrated.

Key Words

Orchidaceae, *Genoplesium cranei*, new species, Queensland, Australian flora.

Introduction

A taxonomic revision of *Genoplesium* R.Br. in Queensland is in the final stages of preparation prior to submission for publication.

The following species was included in that revisionary treatment but in light of the recent tragic death of Ralph Crane, its discoverer, it seems fitting that the species being named in his honor should appear in the same journal as his obituary. Ralph knew that it was my intention to describe this species after him and I am saddened that he did not live to see its publication.

Methods

This study was undertaken using a range of material including fresh living plants, dried herbarium specimens, spirit-preserved specimens stored in BANG mix (65% ethanol, 5% glycerol and 30% water) and 35 mm colour transparencies of flowers.

Specimens were examined from BRI, CANB, MEL and NSW. Unless otherwise indicated, all types (or photographs thereof) and collections cited have been seen by me.

Genoplesium cranei D.L. Jones, sp. nov.

Affinis *G. pumilo* (Hook.f.) D.L. Jones & M.A. Clem., sed floribus majoribus, vix aperiens; sepalis et petalis longioribus, acuminatis; sepalis lateralibus basi valde gibbosis; labello atrorubido, prope medium abrupte retroflexo; callo breviore, emarginato; et alis anticis columnae longo-acuminatis, differt.

Typus: Queensland;
Moreton District; Blackall Range, Mapleton State Forest, 1 March 1991, *R. Crane 612* (holo CANB, iso BRI).

Terrestrial tuberous herb. Leaf terete, 18-30 cm long, c. 2.5 mm wide, light green, pinkish or reddish towards the base; lamina subulate, 14-20 mm long, c. 3 mm wide, closely sheathing the scape at the base, distal third obliquely erect, ending 15-30 mm below the first flower. Inflorescence 20-35 cm tall, bearing 5-20 flowers in an uncrowded spike. Flowers 4-4.6 mm long, green to yellowish green with some reddish markings, occasionally mostly reddish, cleistogamous or scarcely opening at anthesis. Fertile bracts ovate, c. 2 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, acuminate, closely sheathing. Ovary obovoid, c. 3 mm long at anthesis. Dorsal sepal broadly ovate, 3.3-3.5 mm long, 2.1-2.3 mm wide, cucullate; apex long-acuminate. Lateral sepals asymmetrically lanceolate, 4.8-5.2 mm long, 1.8-2 mm wide, strongly gibbous at the base, porrect or obliquely decurved, hardly divergent, distally involute, acuminate, sometimes with a vestigial terminal gland. Petals narrowly ovate, c. 2.6 mm long, c. 1 mm wide, reddish, with a small, white, S-shaped terminal gland. Labellum attached by a short claw; lamina obovate, 2.8-3.2 mm long, 1.5-1.6 mm wide, sharply reflexed at right angles near the middle, dark red, moderately thick and fleshy; margins irregularly denticulate; apex acuminate to apiculate. Callus occupying about half of the ventral surface area of the lamina, extending three-quarters of the way to the apex, dark red, channelled at the base, fleshy, colluviate, c. 0.5 mm wide at the base; apex emarginate. Column c. 1.6 mm long, erect; column foot c. 0.5 long, c. 0.2 mm wide, porrect, curved, pinkish. Column wings lobed about one third of the way to the base, the lobes hardly divergent; posterior lobe linear, obtuse to truncate; anterior lobe lanceolate, long-acuminate, curved, sparsely denticulate. Anther ovate, c. 0.6 mm long, with a filiform rostrum c. 0.5 mm long. Stigma elliptical, c. 0.4 mm long, sunken. Pollinarium degenerative, impossible to remove. Capsules obovoid, 4-4.5 mm long, 1.8-2.5 mm wide, green, erect. **Fig. 1.**

Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to south-eastern Qld where occurring in hilly districts of the Blackall Ranges growing in open forest in shallow stony clay loams.

Altitude: 400-500 m.

Flowering period: February and March.

Notes

A distinctive species which has some affinities with *G. pumilum* but is much more robust with larger flowers arranged in an uncrowded spike.

These flowers, which are cleistogamous or autogamous, remain closed or hardly open at anthesis, whereas those of *G. pumilum* open widely for a few days and then may remain partially open or close as the ovaries swell.

The sepals of *G. cranei* have a long-acuminate apex (shortly acute in *G. pumilum*) and the lateral sepals are strongly gibbous at the base (shallowly gibbous in *G. pumilum*). Whereas the very fleshy labellum of *G. pumilum* is shallowly curved, the much less fleshy labellum of *G. cranei* is strongly reflexed almost at right angles near the middle. Additionally its labellum callus is much shorter, narrower and with an emarginate apex (entire in *G. pumilum*) and the anterior column wings are attenuate to long-acuminate (obtuse to shortly acute in *G. pumilum*).

Conservation Status

Not known to be conserved; suggest 2R according to Briggs and Leigh (1996).

Etymology

Named in honour of Cyril Ralph Crane (1938-1999) who discovered the species and many others during his extensive collecting trips in Queensland.

Specimens examined

Queensland:
Mapleton State Forest, 425m, 4 March 1992, *Crane 714,* (BRI, CANB); *ibid,* 27 Feb. 1995, *Crane 1076* (BRI, CANB); Mt Mee State Forest, 5 Mar. 1995, *Crane 1079* (CANB).

Acknowledgements

I gratefully acknowledge the magnificent contribution made by the late Ralph Crane to my studies.

I also thank Laurie Adams for the Latin diagnosis, Barbara Jones for help in the field, Marion Garratt and Karina FitzGerald for technical expertise and Mark Clements for commenting on the manuscript.

Literature Cited

Briggs, J.D. and Leigh, J.H. (1996). *Rare or Threatened Australian Plants,* revised Edition, CSIRO and Australian Nature Conservation Agency.

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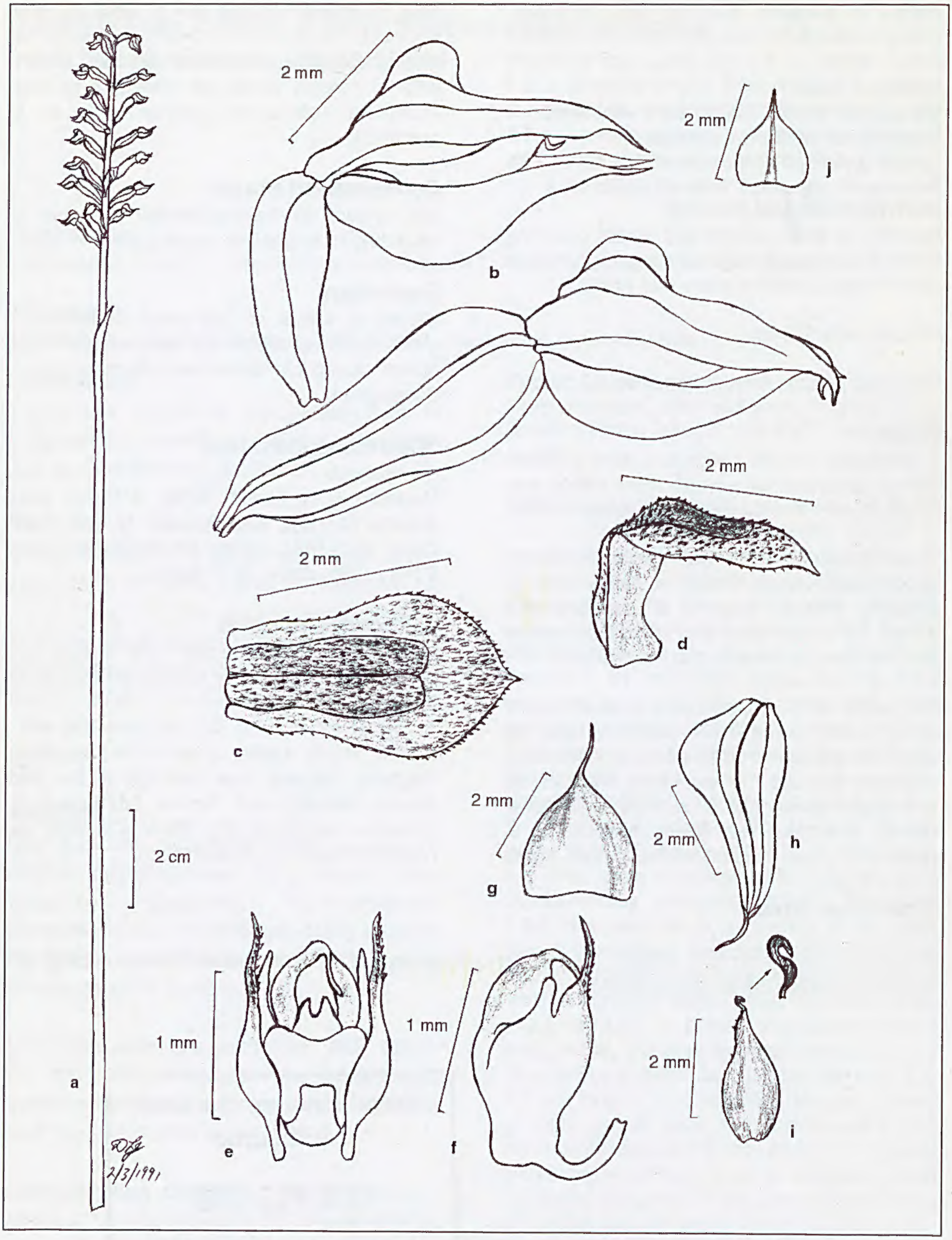
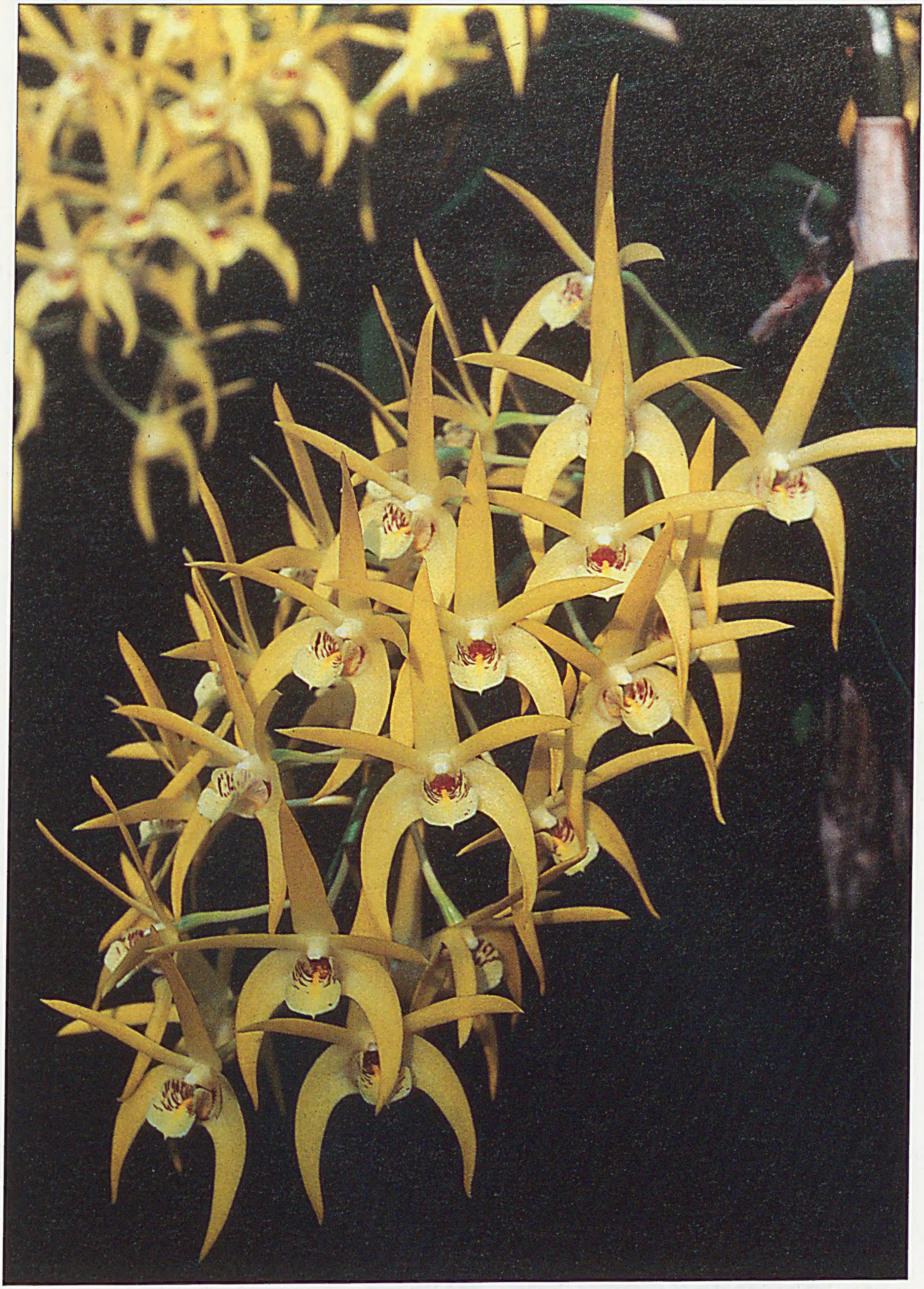


Genoplesium cranei, **Mapleton - Queensland.**

(*R. Crane 612*) drawn from the type collection, **Fig. 1.**

a. plant; **b**. mature flowers, the upper one partly open, the lower one closed; **c**. labellum from above, flattened out; **d**. labellum from side; **e**. column from front; **f**. column from side; **g**. dorsal sepal; **h**. lateral sepal; **i**. petal and petaline gland; **j**. fertile bract.

Drawing 2/3/1991 by D.L. Jones. ©



Grower, Bernie Fletcher Hybridiser, Sid Batchelor Photographer, D.P. Banks ©

***Dendrobium* Yondi Tina 'Goliath'** FCC/AOC-NSW 1999, FCC/ANOS 1999

Ira Butler Awards for 1999

Roslyn Capell,
Hon. Secretary
Ira Butler Trophy Committee
P.O. Box 899, Willoughby NSW 2068

THE WINNER OF THE GOLD IRA BUTLER TROPHY – 1999
For the Champion Australian Native Orchid Hybrid of the Year is
***Dendrobium* Yondi Tina 'Goliath' FCC/AOC-NSW, FCC/ANOS**

This superb orchid was the Grand Champion of the ANOS Warringah Group Inc. Spring Show this year, when it received its First Class Certificate from the ANOS judges: the first FCC ever awarded by ANOS. The following week it was awarded an FCC by judges from the Orchid Society of New South Wales and AOC. It was the winner of the Gold Ira Butler Trophy in 1997, when it was awarded an AM/ANOS. The plant carried five large inflorescences of fully open deep golden yellow flowers of excellent quality. This plant was featured in the previous issue of the *Australian Orchid Review* (Volume 64(6): Dec.1999-Jan.2000), where it also graced the front cover.

The plant is owned by Bernie Fletcher and was bred by Sid Batchelor. It is *D.* Nerang 'Tina' x D. Star of Gold 'Bathurst'. It contains the following species in its breeding - *D. speciosum* 25%, *D. falcorostrum* 25%, *D. tetragonum* 25%, *D. fleckeri* 12.5%, *D. kingianum* 6.25%, *D. jonesii* 6.25%.

Of the 36 plants nominated this year, 13 were from ANOS groups, 13 from State Affiliated Societies, 5 from State Societies, 3 were awarded plants and one each from NOSSA and the Dungog Show.

The following ten "runners up" will receive **Silver Ira Butler Trophies**:

- *Dendrobium* Border Sunset 'Helen' - Norm & Kay Mitchell (Hybridiser: Stewart Penman)
- *Dendrobium* Jesmond Charm 'Abbey' HCC/AOC, HCC/ANOS - Brian Miller (Hybridiser: John Purvis)
- *Dendrobium* Kardinia - Henk van den Berg (Hybridiser: Reg Sheen)
- *Dendrobium* Kayla 'Top Cat' - Colin Brandon (Hybridiser: Colin Brandon)
- *Dendrobium* Star of Riverdene 'Tumbi' - Down Under Native Orchids (Hybridiser: N. Finch)
- *Dendrobium* X delicatum 'Pink Betty' - Down Under Native Orchids (Hybridiser: N. Finch)
- *Dendrobium* (Elegant Heart x Kathking) 'Tracy' HCC/AOC-NSW - Bernie Fletcher (Hybridiser: N. Finch)
- *Plectochilus* Harlequin 'Court Jester' AD/AOC-NSW - David Butler (Hybridiser: David Butler)
- *Pterostylis* Sentinel - Alan & Doreen Garner (Hybridiser: Les Nesbitt)
- *Sarcochilus* First Light 'Splash' - Rob Lewry (Hybridiser: N. Finch)

The following entries will receive **Ira Butler Certificates**:

- *Dendrobium* Anne's Rainbow Surprise - Alan & Ada Kelly
- *Dendrobium* Avril's Gold 'Gold Flame' - Bill Fisher
- *Dendrobium* Brinawa Charm - G. & M. Hazeldine
- *Dendrobium* Candy 'Moonraker' – Frank Vernon
- *Dendrobium* Duno Burgundy Sheen 'Taylah' HCC/AOC-NSW - Bernie Fletcher
- *Dendrobium* Duno Superlocks 'Sylvia' - Paul Wheeler
- *Dendrobium* Duno Vivspot - Frank Vernon
- *Dendrobium* Elegant Nancy 'Phyllis - Albert Sherwood
- *Dendrobium* Graham Hewitt - David & Pat Harmer
- *Dendrobium* Hilda Poxon 'Joan Martin' HCC-ACC/AOC-QOS – M. & K. Martin
- *Dendrobium* Hilda Poxon 'Oakville' - Norm & Kay Mitchell
- *Dendrobium* Jayden - Alan & Bibi Baker
- *Dendrobium* Kayla 'Eva' - Rob Lewry
- *Dendrobium* Red Ballerina - Michael Harrison
- *Dendrobium* Star of Riverdene 'Jeanie' - John Douglas
- *Dendrobium* Stunning 'Amy' - Alan & Bibi Baker

- *Dendrobium* Tawhai - Barry & Beattie Khann
- *Dendrobium* Tie-Dye 'Magic Moment' - Norm & Kay Mitchell
- *Dendrobium* Vintage 'Candy' - Norm & Kay Mitchell
- *Dendrobium* (Brinawa Charm 'Plum' x *falcorostrum*) - M.J. Britton
- *Dendrobium* (Gillian Leaney x Nunkumbil) - Iris & David Freeman
- *Sarcochilus* Cherie's Wine - John Douglas
- *Sarcochilus* First Light 'Hangover' - Rob Lewry
- *Sarcochilus* Melody 'Measels' - Colin Brandon
- *Sarcochilus* Victoria 'Yannie's Quest' - David & Leeanne Brown

THE WINNER OF THE BILL MURDOCH TROPHY - 1999
for the Champion Australian Native Orchid Species of the Year is
***Dendrobium tetragonum* 'Bellingen'**

This splendid plant was grown by Norm & Kay Mitchell, and was Reserve Champion at the Coffs Harbour Orchid Society show. As the description on the nomination form states, it was very eye catching. The shape and colour of the flowers are excellent, and it is an exceptional example of *Dendrobium tetragonum* var. *tetragonum*.

There were 26 plants nominated, 8 of which were known to be line bred, and two of which had received awards. There was a good cross-section of genera represented, with more dendrobiums nominated than any other.

The following will receive **Bill Murdoch Certificates:**

- *Caladenia longicauda* - Rod Steer
- *Caladenia splendens* - Merv Miles
- *Dendrobium agrostophyllum* 'Butter Cup' - Gerry Walsh
- *Dendrobium bigibbum* 'Jessie' - Albert Sherwood
- *Dendrobium bigibbum* 'Top Hat' AM/ANOS - Henk van den Berg
- *Dendrobium kingianum* ('Cherries' x 'Corrigan's Red') - Tom & Ross Fitzgerald
- *Dendrobium kingianum* 'The Bellinger' - Norm & Kay Mitchell
- *Dendrobium speciosum* var. *grandiflorum* - Michael Denning
- *Dendrobium speciosum* 'Windy Too' - Henk van den Berg
- *Dendrobium tetragonum* - Graeme & Margaret Jones
- *Dendrobium tetragonum* - Norm & Kay Mitchell
- *Dockrillia nugentii* 'Jeffrey' AM/ANOS - Fred Fear
- *Dockrillia striolata* 'Kenthurst' - Rob Lewry
- *Dockrillia teretifolia* - Noel Oliver
- *Dockrillia wassellii* - Noel Oliver
- *Plectorrhiza tridentata* - George Barrett
- *Pterostylis baptistii* 'Gosford' AD/ANOS - George Nieuwenhoven
- *Pterostylis curta* - Gordon & Coralie Hime
- *Pterostylis gibbosa* - Graeme Bradburn
- *Pterostylis revoluta - Ian & Karen Charlesworth*
- *Sarcochilus falcatus* 'Strewth' - Gerry Walsh
- *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* – L. Fagg
- *Sarcochilus hartmannii* 'Cascade' - Rob Lewry
- *Sarcochilus hartmannii* 'Red Coral' - Kevin Wilson
- *Sarcochilus hartmannii* ('George' x 'Eric Marygold') - Alan Stephenson

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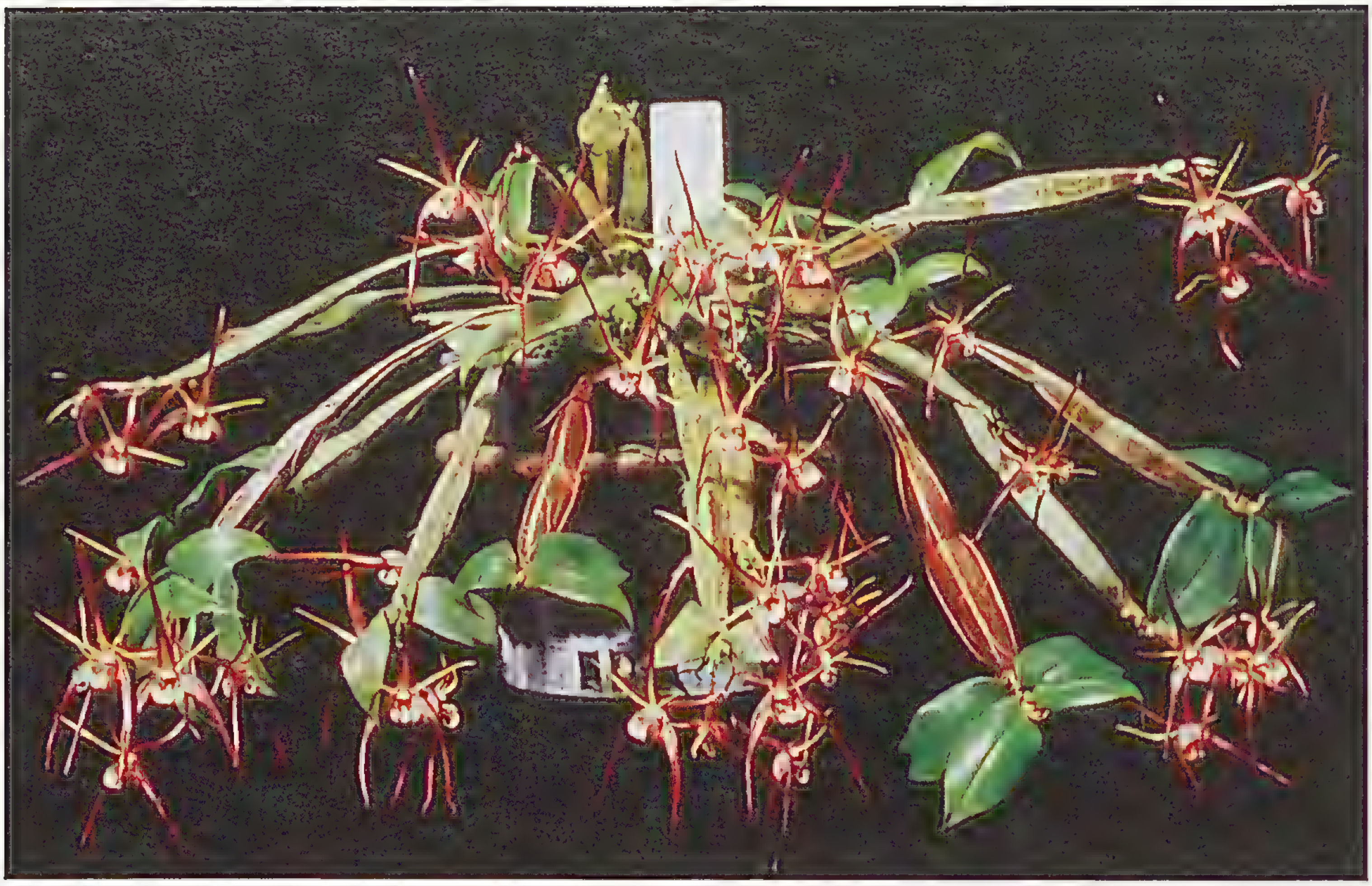
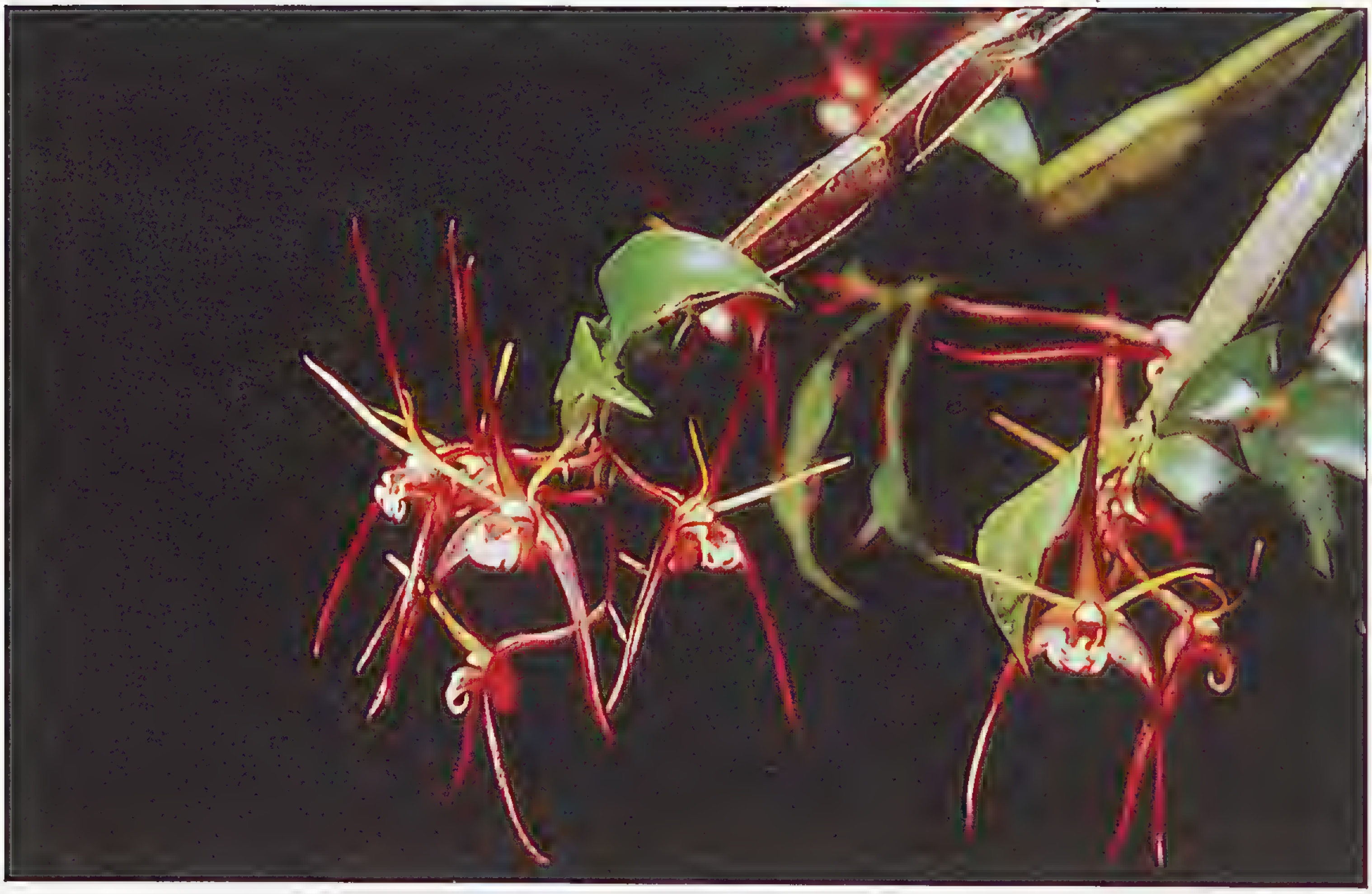


growers, Norm & Kay Mitchell N. Mitchell

Dendrobium tetragonum **'Bellingen'**



growers, Norm & Kay Mitchell N. Mitchell

Dendrobium tetragonum **'Bellingen'**

New Australian Native Orchid Hybrid Registrations

New registrations from the Royal Horticultural Society (abridged from *The Orchid Review*)
January - September 1999 registrations.
The following species appeared for the first time as a parent in registration;
Diuris platichila.

Name	Parentage	Registered by
Caladenia		
Spiderman	*latifolia* x *tentaculata*	Nesbitts
Dendrobium		
Carolyn's Surprise	Colonial Surprise x Jombock	Florafest (Klein)
Deirdre Smith	Warooa x Hilda Poxon	D. Wood
Doreen Rankin	Peewee x Pauline Rankin	R. Rankin
Florafest Sparkler	Kathryn Banks x Ku-Ring-Gai	Florafest
Florafest's Orange Delight	Superb-King x *tetragonum*	Florafest
Grace Robson	Aussie Angel x Sunglow	Down Under N. O.
Gracemere	Grace Robson x *speciosum*	Down Under N. O.
Jack Robson	Elegant Heart x Ellen	Down Under N. O.
Jazz	Yondi Glow x Aussie Victory	Down Under N. O.
Karen Rankin	Peewee x Blushing Sun	R. Rankin
Long Tan	Beast x Aussie Victory	Down Under N. O.
Maroon Star	Star of Riverdene x *tetragonum*	Orchid Zone (Skillicorn)
Melissa Nicole Dickey	Aussie Sunshine x *speciosum*	D. Wood
Memoria Terry Fursman	*jonesii* (as *ruppianum*) x *johannis*	Sakrzewski (Fursman)
Natalie Jane Wood	Karsun x Aussie Victory	D. Wood
Skilly's Pride	Elegant Heart x King-Wong	A.N.O.S. (Skillicorn)
Tosca	Lustrous x Vivid	Down Under N. O.
Victorian Bride	Rutherford Blushing Bride x Aussie Victory	W. Turville
Victorian Frost	Bicentennial Rose x Gulginni	W. Turville (O/U)
Victorian King	*kingianum* x Zip	W. Turville
Victorian Lady	Yondi x Rutherford Blushing Bride	W. Turville
Victorian Regency	Jesmond Sparkler x Aussie Parade	W. Turville
Victorian Rose	Yondi x Yondi Brolga	W. Turville
Winston	Ellen x Aussie Victory	Down Under N. O.
Diuris		
Nugget	*platichila* x *corymbosa*	Nesbitts
Pterostylis		
Goblin	Dusky Duke x Cutie	Nesbitts
Rhinochilus		
Florafest's Orange Delight	*Sarco.* Cherie's Wine x *Rhin. divitiflora*	Florafest
Lava Burst	*Rhincs.* Dorothy x *Sarco. fitzgeraldii*	Florafest (Fagg)
Sarcochilus		
Judy's Snowflakes	Southern Cross x Judith	Florafest (Fagg)
Rosie Glow	Verolica x Fitzhart	Florafest
Samantha Joy	*ceciliae* x First Light	Florafest

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The Orchids of Fraser Island

by Ralph Crane
Maleny, Queensland

Fraser Island lies adjacent to the central Queensland coast, offshore from the township of Hervey Bay. It is only a few kilometres from the mainland on the southern end, where the Great Sandy Strait separates it, to about 60 km away on the northern end, creating Hervey Bay. The island is 125 km long and 25 km broad at its widest point, consisting of pure sand and having the tallest sand hills in the world. The highest point on the island is Bimjella Hill at 174 metres.

The southern 20 km of the island has been mined for rutile and is of limited botanical interest. The remainder consists of a wide variety of habitat varying from rainforests; open eucalypt to open heath and wallum country as well as some unusual sub-tropical fends. The rainforest areas consist some impressive stands of large old Turpentine (*Syncarpia hillii*), Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) and Queensland Kauri Pine (*Agathis robusta*) as well as many assorted species. It is also the southern most point for the moisture loving King Fern (*Angiopteris evecta*). There are also some large areas of *Eucalyptus* forests as the country opens up to heath and wallum areas where *Banksia* species and Grass Trees (*Xanthorrhoea* sp.) dominate. These habitats are found in the centre and western side of the island. There are considerable mangrove flats on the western shores.

Travel on the island is by four-wheel drive only; the beach on the eastern side is the road from top to bottom, with you only having to detour in three places to avoid the patches of rock on the headlands. The inland roads consist mainly of old logging sand tracks that are single lane with passing spots along the way.

There is no doubt, that despite the logging of years gone by, that the island still has a lot of good natural untouched forest. Even the logged areas appear to have recovered and regenerated fairly quickly.

On checking records at the Queensland Herbarium, I found that 21 orchid species were confirmed by pressed collections. This appeared to be on the low side considering reports I had been told by visitors to the island. Therefore I arranged two trips to Fraser Island, each of a week's duration, for May and August 1998. I would like to thank David Jones from the National Botanic Gardens, Canberra for verification and identification of taxa and assistance with unrecorded species.

EPIPHYTIC SPECIES

Bulbophyllum schillerianum

This was the only species of *Bulbophyllum* that I encountered, in two separate locations. It grew on the trunks of mature hoop pines under a thick high canopy. I personally did not see *B. minutissimum*, even though it is found growing on mangroves to the south on Stradbroke Island.

Cymbidium madidum

This was found around the moist rainforest areas on rotting logs, in old large elkhorns (*Platycerium bifurcatum*) high in the canopy as well as in the familiar hollow limb. This species seems to be more at home in open eucalypt forest (in hollows) or sometimes on the exterior of a she oak (*Casuarina* sp.)

Cymbidium suave

This was common in open eucalypt forest in hollow limbs and in several old stumps and fallen logs.

Dendrobium aemulum

The "long cane" form that grows on brush box trees (*Lophostemon confertus*) was seen around the outer edge of the rainforest. I was surprised to encounter this species at such a low elevation. Interestingly, I also found this form a few months later on Moreton Island.

Dendrobium melaleucaphilum

This species is quite common I the lower story of the closed forest, in particular around creeks. Flower colour is variable and in one area a number of plants displayed very pale greenish yellow blooms. Since returning, I was shown some plants with small dark reddish flowers, which allegedly came from the island. These would appear to match *D. tetragonum*.

Dockrillia bowmanii

A common species found around the mature hoop pines and the drier scrub where it will grow quite close to the ground.

Dockrillia linguiformis

This species is quite common on Fraser Island as well as southeast Queensland. It often displays a wide variation in leaf size and shape. It favours the drier type of scrubby country.

Oberonia palmicola

A small species that favours moist and shady locations. Due to its fine root system it prefers hosts with rough bark. The roots then seek out moist and cool cavities to anchor the plant.

Peristeranthus hillii

This monotypic species occurs around the damp rainforest areas under a closed canopy. The plants can reach substantial size, particularly those with multiple crowns. The root system also becomes extensive, often travelling well over a metre away from the plant.

Rhinerrhiza divitiflora

In two separate locations, I found only a single plant of the "Raspy-root Orchid". I would expect it to be a little more common, remembering I only had two weeks on the island and only a very small percentage of the country was covered.

Taeniophyllum muelleri

A small leafless orchid which favours the smaller twigs of trees, here it was quite common on small hoop pines varying from the drier scrub to the understorey of the moist rainforest.

TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

Acianthus fornicatus

Is widespread on the island, mainly in the open eucalypt forests several sand dunes back from the ocean beach. The leaf of this species is dark purple underneath.

Acianthus* sp. aff. *fornicatus

These plants have a smaller, paler leaf that sits up to 50 mm off the ground. The underside of the leaf was green. I saw it in a couple of locations growing around the butt of an old bloodwood tree, in with the rotting bark. The flowers were also smaller than typical *A. fornicatus*. There were also albino (green flowered) plants within the colony.

***Arthrochilus* sp.**

These were seen on the edge of an airstrip and in adjacent *Melaleuca* scrub. They were not in flower. In this genus the flowers appear before the foliage and it is often difficult to spot them amongst the grasses, even in sites where you have seen leaves the previous year. My experience with the local species (*A. prolixus* and *A. irritabilis*) is that they are erratic and often shy flowerers.

Caladenia alata

Found in the wallum and heath country, at times with *C. fuscata*. This species has pointed segments and blooms which often don't fully open.

Caladenia carnea

A spring flowering species seen on one occasion growing under low *Leptospermum* scrub on a southerly roadside bank.

***Caladenia* sp. aff. *carnea* (Fraser Island)**

This taxon was seen in two locations quite different from the other caladenias on the island. These were growing in the moss on a trackside bank in heavy shade under a closed canopy. The other place was on a thick mossy bank of an old forestry road, in a fairly open situation where it was quite common. The flowers were much darker and heavier pink than *C. carnea* or *C. fuscata* with some variation in the labellum.

Caladenia catenata

Was seen spasmodically in the open eucalypt country and occasionally in the heath and wallum. Flower colour varied from pure white to various shades of pink.

Caladenia fuscata

This is a similar species to *C. carnea* being a little smaller, more pointed and often darker in colour. Was seen in considerable numbers in the wallum and heath country.

Calanthe triplicata

A common evergreen species around the rainforest areas, in one location a large clump in excess of 40 plants was encountered. Around Central Station (along the creek) a count exceeded 200 visible clumps without leaving the frequently used walking track. The roots of this species do not appear to penetrate the ground, preferring to travel on top or through the rotting leaf litter.

Caleana major

Occasional flowers of the "Flying Duck Orchid" were seen in both wallum and heath country on the first trip in May. On the second trip in August they were a common sight in many locations.

Caleana minor

The small "Flying Duck" was a common sight in one area, growing under heath on the southern embankment of several old tracks with *Caladenia* species in sandy areas.

Chiloglottis diphylla

Several plants were seen in the open eucalypt country in May, with some plants in bud. Sometimes this formed extensive colonies, some twenty metres square. The long clubs on the sepals and the callus arrangement on the labellum can distinguish this species from other southeast Queensland *Chiloglottis* species.

Corybas aconitiflorus

A dark flowered species closely related to *C. barbarae*, this was found growing in a wet *Melaleuca* swamp where the only places above the waterline were the higher knolls where they occurred.

Corybas barbarae

This is a small ground hugging species that can be easily overlooked. It grows in leaf litter in moist conditions. Without high humidity the flowers (or buds) would quickly collapse. Its pale white to pink blooms resemble a fungus when viewed from above.

Corybas undulatus

This species grows in what are referred to as subtropical fens, I would call them *Sphagnum* bogs. On Fraser Island, the moisture comes from below. This area is pitted with potholes up to a metre across, with a similar depth. This is a very sensitive area and any disturbance would remain obvious for a considerable time. There could be other habitats like this that may turn up this species, but they are hard to explore due to the thick saw grass.

Cryptostylis erecta

This evergreen to semi-evergreen species was seen growing in a trackside drain and in the edge of the surrounding *Melaleuca* forest, which would always be moist. This appears to be a favourite habitat for this species, what has no underground tuberoid, only thick fleshy roots.

Dipodium hamiltonianum

This is a scarce greenish yellow flowered saprophytic species, which is found in the wallum country.

Dipodium punctatum

This is another common leafless species. This was found in a number of situations, from open forest to wallum and heath areas.

Dipodium variegatum

On a more recent trip, I saw large numbers of this species in a variety of locations, from the white sand to the open forest mainly on the northern end of the island.

Eriochilus* sp. aff. *autumnalis

An undescribed species that has been recorded from the Sunshine coast hinterland in four different locations. The Fraser Island plants were growing on the edge of an airstrip close to a damp *Melaleuca* patch.

Erythrorchis cassythoides

This is one of the climbing saprophytic species which is reasonably common in southeast Queensland. It grows in open *Eucalyptus* forests, living on a fungus that invades rotting wood. In good seasons they can grow to a considerable size. I have also seen them scramble across the ground in treeless areas.

Genoplesium psammophilum
A dark red to brown flowered species named in 1991 from Stradbroke Island, Queensland. This again was seen growing in the white sand patches among the heath and *Banksia* country.

Genoplesium pumilum
A species that differs from the others seen on the island by its greenish coloured flowers. There appeared to be two different populations, one with much larger individual blooms. These grew near grasstrees in the open wallum country.

***Genoplesium* sp.**
An undescribed species with well spaced dark flowers, occurring in the white sand in heath and *Banksia* country in the central and western side of the island. In the Queensland Herbarium, there were five unnamed *Genoplesium* specimens, which I believe represent two undescribed species. This genus is an interesting group of small flowered plants. However, judging by the number of unnamed species in southeast Queensland, little taxonomic work has been done on them. I have found a small number of these, to as far west as Carnarvon Gorge. I have noticed that the flowering season can vary considerable from year to year. I believe their appearance is governed by the first soaking rains of the season. I have noted that the time from substantial rain to flowering is as little as six weeks. I am not sure how much rain is needed to trigger the plants into bloom.

Geodorum densiflorum
A very common and widespread species in southern Queensland, from the coastal islands growing in pure sand, to hilly stony and often dry sites well away from the coast.

Glossodia minor
Three flowering plants were seen on cleared ground beside an airstrip. I suspect there had been soil brought in from other parts of the island for the airstrip, so just where this species has come from is unknown.

Liparis simmondsii
This is a rare deciduous terrestrial found on the damp rainforest floor. The pseudobulbs get covered with leaf litter during the winter, in a habit similar to *Calanthe triplicata*. The flower is typical for the genus, with deep reddish purple blooms with a contrasting green column.

Microtis parviflora
This species appears to favour moist locations in strong light. Found in many places on the island.

Phaius australis
This large growing evergreen species is well known on Fraser Island, but not represented by samples in the Queensland Herbarium. I was interested in finding out how prevalent it was, as it is now classified in Queensland as endangered. A local told me about large stands of plants as a "secret" location. These in fact turned out to be *Geodorum densiflorum*. At Woongilba Creek, two large colonies (of over 20 plants each) were seen with advanced flower spikes. I am sure it is also in other parts of the island.

Prasophyllum exilis
This species was named in 1991 from the adjacent mainland, so its occurrence on the island was no surprise. It was found in a moist location under a stand of *Melaleuca* trees.

Pseudovanilla foliata
An uncommon climbing orchid found in the rainforests or on the fringes. Mature plants are the tallest of Australia's orchids.

Pterostylis acuminata
A common coastal species of greenhood, recognisable by its long, narrow and pointed labellum. It favours the open eucalypt forest in quite strong light.

Pterostylis baptistii
This is one of the largest species of *Pterostylis* in southern Queensland. It is usually seen in moist shady locations on the fringes of closed forests and close to creeks where there is a good cover of rotting leaf mould, which it favours.

Pterostylis erecta
A species similar to *P. pedunculata*, this was also associated with moist shady conditions. It can also be found in more exposed situations in southern Queensland.

Pterostylis hispidula

This is a sister species to *P. nutans*, differing in its smaller, less nodding flowers with a shorter labellum. In a couple of sites the two species grew close together.

Pterostylis nigricans

A species closely related to *P. parviflora*, this was named in 1988 from material from South Stradbroke Island. It has larger and darker blooms than its close relative. It is quite common through the heath and wallum country, which is dominated by white sand.

Pterostylis nutans

The common "Nodding Greenhood" is arguably the most common species in southeast Queensland (or the east coast of Australia?). It was seen in many locations on the island.

Pterostylis ophioglossa

This is a distinctive species with its forked snake-like labellum, which can form large colonies. There are two colour forms in southern Queensland, one green with translucent white striping, and the other predominantly brown. These were of the green form.

Pterostylis parviflora

Several populations were seen growing in the heath and open wallum, often with *P. nigricans*. This species is quite common in southeast Queensland around the stony ridges and on occasions in the heath and wallum areas on the coastal fringe.

Pterostylis sp. aff. *revoluta*

On my first trip (in May), I saw withered flowers of a "cauline" *Pterostylis* in the open eucalypt country, only a few sand dunes from the beach. The closest I could come up with was *P. revoluta*, which I am more familiar with from the granite country of the Darling Downs. However, these blooms were much wider with a shorter labellum. (As noted from cultivated specimens.) Obviously fresh material needs to be studied in the field.

Pterostylis sp. aff. *parviflora* (?)

While in the subtropical fens looking at Corybas undulates, I noticed a few rosettes of a *Pterostylis* species growing in the sphagnum moss. It would appear to be part of the *P. parviflora* complex. There appears to be no records of anything like this, from this specialised habitat, from southern Queensland. Again fresh flowering material needs to be studied.

Thelymitra nuda

Many "Sun Orchids" were seen over a wide area (often on the edge of old logging tracks), but I was a bit early to see many flowers. *T. nuda* is a common species, which often self-pollinates.

Thelymitra pauciflora

I encountered a number of blooming plants of this species in an excavated area where sand had been removed to build up an old airstrip.

Zeuxine oblonga

This is a rainforest species growing in the rotting leaf litter on the floor of the forest, often in colonies. In one location they had established over a very large area. This species is possibly a little more common than we think, as it is easily passed over. It is also a plant that could quite easily be passed off as a form of wandering dew! The very small white and green flowers are not likely to excite, yet they are still part of our diverse flora.

Conclusion

The following are species that are recorded in the Queensland Herbarium by way of voucher specimens from Fraser Island. I did not encounter the following six species on my trips.

Acianthus pusillus
Bulbophyllum minutissimum
Calochilus grandiflorus
Dendrobium tetragonum
Prasophyllum brevilabre
Prasophyllum patens

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Boarders and Squatters in My Glasshouse

Brian Milligan,
35 Tannock Street, North Balwyn Vic. 3104

Unfortunately the useful boarders, who pay for their keep in my glasshouse, are greatly outnumbered by the freeloading squatters. Probably the most useful boarder is the tiny jumping spider. These comical creatures, with their huge eye-patches and the ability to jump many times their body length, probably eat their weight in 'squatters' every week. I have mixed feelings about fungus gnats, those small winged insects that creep over bark-based potting mixes, because I don't know the exact nature of their diet. If they prey on *Phytophthora* and other pathogenic fungi, then I'm all for them. But if their main diet consists of the mycorrhizal fungi that provide food for developing orchids, then maybe they should be regarded as squatters. Predatory mites, whose sole diet is the two-spotted mite (red spider), are definitely top-class boarders.

Some growers encourage small frogs that prey on a variety of insect pests but small frogs that grow into big frogs topple pots and sometimes break flower spikes during their amorous adventures after dark. Ladybirds are highly regarded for their ability to eat large numbers of aphids. Sadly, my orchids seem to attract many aphids but few ladybirds.

Long experience has made me an expert when it comes to squatters in the glasshouse. Slugs and snails are undoubtedly the worst. In the garden, they're mainly a pest after rain, but in the glasshouse snails and slugs are continually active, because the floor is always wet. Theoretically my plants should be safe because they are grown on benches constructed of galvanised iron (snails and slugs dislike crawling on zinc-coated surfaces). However, the cunning devils use weeds, ferns and *Impatiens* (a colourful glasshouse weed) as stepladders to reach the orchids. The solution is to remove the weeds and to regularly sprinkle snail bait (Baysol® or Defender®) where our pets cannot reach. Please note that all products listed in this article are toxic and should therefore be handled with appropriate safety precautions.

Garlic snails, so-called because of their smell when crushed, are another menace. They feed largely on active root tips and probably retard the growth of small seedlings, in particular, much more than we realise. During the day they hide but they can easily be seen at night when they come out to forage. They are quite small, about the size of the letter 'o' on this page, even when fully grown. Liquid snail baits containing Methiocarb® offer better control than do solid baits. Caterpillars of various sorts can do much damage in a short time, as they invariably attack the fresh, new growths. Dusts based on carbaryl work well on most but not on those little fellows that sew themselves inside the growing leaf tip. One can use systemic insecticides, but I usually extract these caterpillars by hand and finish them off by foot!

Aphid outbreaks seem to occur regularly in my collection. Some growers blast them off with a jet of water from the hose. The trick is to use enough force to dislodge the aphids without simultaneously removing the buds! This technique is really not that successful. I use a wettable powder called Orthene®, which does not affect buds or flowers. Pirimor® is also popular. Unfortunately it if available only in large, wholesale quantities and has a most objection-able odour in powder form; fortunately, it's less unpleasant when dissolved in water for application.

I have left until last the greatest freeloader of them all, our black cat, Max. From sad experience, I strongly advise you never to lock a hungry, mentally unstable cat accidentally (or deliberately) in your glasshouse overnight!

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Bulbophyllum blumei (Lindl.) J.J. Sm.

Jim Cootes
8 Salt Pan Road,
Riverwood NSW 2210

Taxonomic History:

Bulbophyllum blumei was first described by Carl Blume as *Ephippium ciliatum* in 1825. Taxonomists now consider the generic name used by Blume, as a section of the large genus *Bulbophyllum*. The type species for the section *Ephippium* is the New Guinea species *Bulbophyllum nasica* Schltr. In 1830 Dr. John Lindley transferred *Ephippium ciliatum* to his genus *Cirrhopetalum* and gave the plant the specific epithet of *blumei*, because *ciliatum* had been used for a totally different species. Then in 1905, J.J. Smith transferred the generic name to *Bulbophyllum*, hence the now accepted name of *Bulbophyllum blumei*.

Distribution:

This species is widespread and has been recorded from western Malaysia, Sumatra, Borneo, the Philippines, Kei Island, New Guinea, northern Australia and the Solomon Islands. Plants from north Queensland were commonly called *B. masdevalliaceum*, one of the synonyms of this species. It grows as an epiphyte, usually on tree trunks, at low elevations. The plants of this species that I have observed growing in the wild in the Philippines (island of Mindoro), have all been growing in deep shade, in a brackish water swamp, where there is always high humidity.

Plant Description:

This is from a specimen growing on the island of Mindoro, Philippines.

Pseudobulbs: ovoid, slightly flattened, 2.5 - 4 cm high by .7 - 1.5 cm in diameter; on a rhizome up to 4 mm in diameter. The pseudobulbs are placed at intervals of between 2.5 and 5 cm on the rhizome. Leaves: thinly textured, ovate to elliptic, 9 - 16 cm long by 1.9 - 3 cm wide; petiole .5 - 2 cm long. Inflorescence: to 11 cm long, bearing a single bloom. Flower colour: dorsal sepal: white, heavily striped with purple; petals: transparent, striped with purple; lateral sepals: yellow, heavily spotted with purple; labellum: deep purple. Dorsal sepal: ovate, edged with short white hairs, tip acuminate, 2.3 cm long by 6 mm wide. Petals: ovate 6 mm long by 2.5 mm wide. Lateral sepals: ovate, 2.8 cm long by 8 mm wide, caudae (tails of lateral sepals) 1.2 cm long. Labellum: recurved, thick at base, central portion thin and circular, overall 8 mm long by 2 mm wide.

Cultivation:

Because this species is a rambler it is best grown on a slab of tree fern or a length of well-weathered hardwood. Place the plant on the mount then put moss besides the rhizomes to maintain a little extra moisture around the roots and also encourage root growth. Hang in a shady position where the plant will get high humidity, good air movement and at least 70% shade. In more temperate climates this species would have to be placed in a heated glasshouse for the winter with a minimum of 15 degrees Celsius. It will grow quite happily out of doors in humid tropical climates. Regular applications of both organic and inorganic fertilisers, at half of what the manufacturer recommends (i.e. the manufacturer states 1 teaspoon per litre use 1 teaspoon in 2 litres of water), should have *Bulbophyllum blumei* growing and flowering to perfection.

Notes:

In *Orchidiana Philippiniana*, the description for *Bulbophyllum blumei* is under the description of *Bulbophyllum cheiri* Lindl. on page 105. Flowering has been observed, in the Philippines, in February, September and December. Australian plants tend to bloom in the summer.

Bulbophyllum blumei is a most attractive, large-flowered species, which is easy to grow and flower. It is worthy of a special place in any species collection. The only disappointing thing about *Bulbophyllum blumei* is that the blooms are short-lived, but it flowers more than once a year.

References:

Valmayor H.L. (1984). *Orchidiana Philippiniana* - Eugenio Lopez Foundation Inc, Manila, Philippines.

Vermoulen J.J. (1991). *Orchids of Borneo 2, Bulbophyllum* - Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew & Toihaan Publishing Co. Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia.

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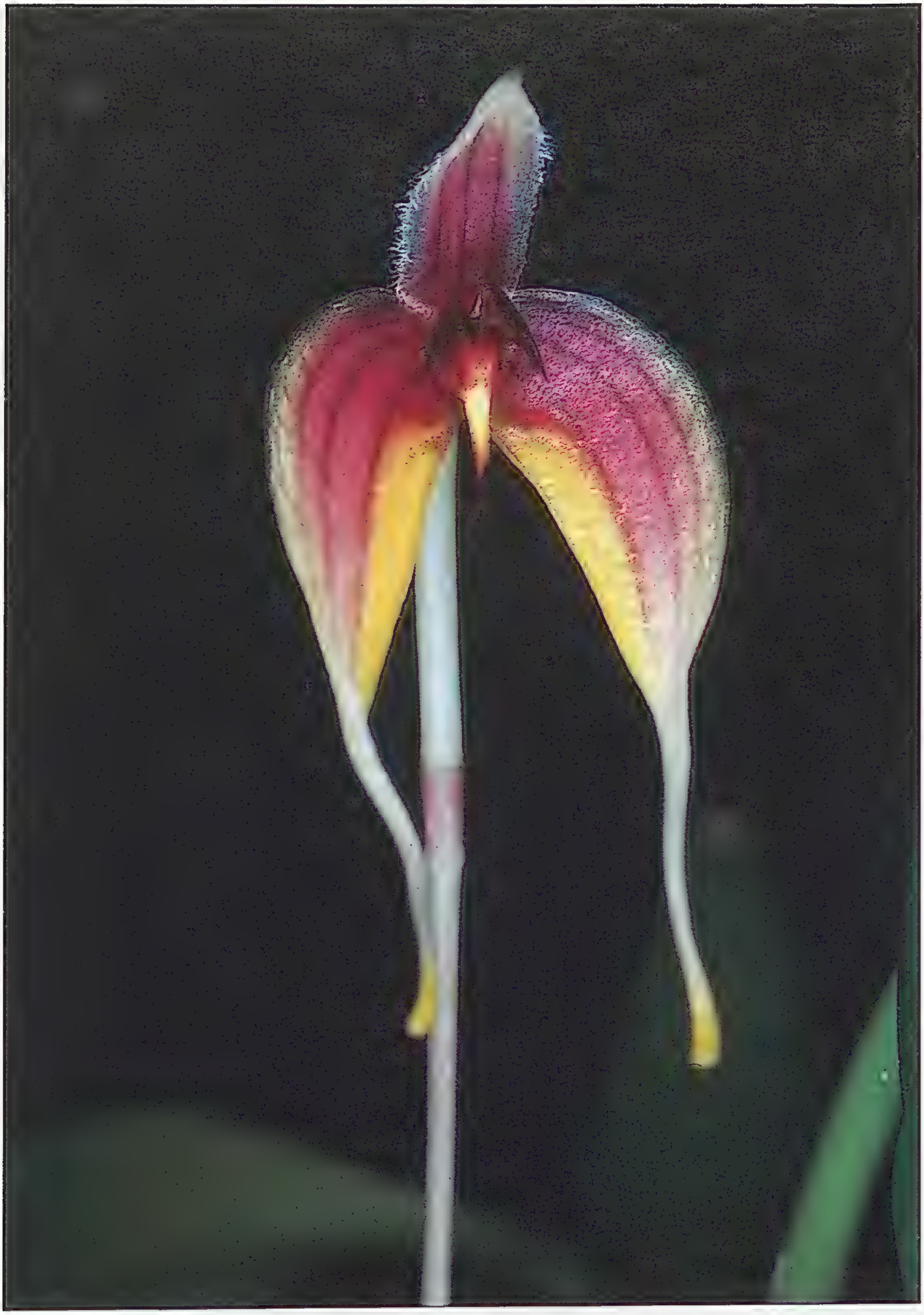

Grower, Darryl Smedley (Oceania Orchids) D.P. Banks

Bulbophyllum blumei

Fourth Australasian Native Orchid Conference and Show
Melbourne 5-8 October 2000

The conference program runs on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th October with 26 papers to be presented. Our speaker program is almost finalized and is proving to be extensive and stimulating with much interest for all; the new member, the experienced grower, the native plant enthusiast, and the professional. Cultivation, conservation, botany, the latest in hybridization methods are all covered, with more to whet your appetites.

The papers will be organized into themes to assist you to attend sessions of interest to you such as:
Cultivation methods and experiences
- Taxonomy issues
- Latest developments in hybridization
- Regional orchid floras
- Specific orchid genera
- Conservation of threatened species.

A keynote speaker is being organized to open each theme session. A list of the papers and their authors as we currently have them are given below for your information.

Helen Richards will open the conference on Friday morning when she will deliver her paper on the conference theme, "Native Orchids, Our Natural Heritage". Helen is a Life Member of ANOS Vic Group, a member of various other ANOS groups, and is a director of the Australian Orchid Council. Helen may be known to many of you through her regular presentations at orchid group meetings around Australia and at previous ANOS conferences. In fact, just looking at the list of papers she has presented since she joined ANOS Vic Group in 1974 will indicate just how popular a speaker she is. It is fair to say that her talks are always well attended, enjoyable, and informative. You can expect this one to follow in the same mould as it fits squarely with her aim 'to enlighten people on the pleasures and importance of the cultivation of Australian terrestrial orchids with an emphasis, where appropriate, on conservation'. Her enthusiasm is obvious and infectious.

Time is running out for the Early Bird registration discounts, you need to get your registration form and payment in by 31st March. See the Orchadian of December 1999 for prices or visit our web site at www.anos.org.au/conference. Alternatively, contact our Conference Secretariat at PO Box 2152, Templestowe Heights Vic. 3107 (ph 03 9850 9867). We look forward to seeing you there, you will be disappointed if you miss this one.

Speaker	**Topic**
Gary Backhouse	Victoria's orchids and habitats
David Banks	The genus *Dockrillia* and its use in hybridisation
Andrew Batty	Conservation techniques for threatened orchids in WA
Heinrich Beyrle	*Thelymitra* hybrids
Colin Bower	Using specific pollinators to discover new orchid species
Paul Carver	Creating artificial orchid environments
Andre Cleghorn	to be announced (flasking)
Ted Elgood	*Sarcochilus* culture
Michael Harrison	*Bulbophyllum* species of Australia
Colin Knight	Orchid conservation programs at Melbourne Zoo
David Jones	Systematics of the genus *Diuris*
Les Nesbitt	Ten ways to save rare orchid species
Trevor Porteous	Orchid Organiser
Helen Richards	Native orchids – Our Natural Heritage
Frank Simpson	Cultivation and hybridisation of *Sarcanthinae* orchids
Tony Slater	Can pollination biology be a taxonomic character?
Darryl Smedley	Australasian *Bulbophyllum* species
Phillip Spence	*Latouria* Dendrobiums and their hybrids
Greg Steenbeeke	Distribution and conservation of orchids in northeast NSW
Geoff Stocker	Prospects for cool-tolerant Spatulata (*Dendrobium*) hybrids
Wolfgang Strube	Sanitation procedure for orchid culture
Malcolm Thomas	Cultivating terrestrial orchids
James Todd	Recovery of threatened orchids in Victoria
Wayne Turville	Stars and Stripes – spectacular *Dendrobium* hybrids
Eric Wilde	to be announced (growing Specimen plants)

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Book Review

Tropical Orchids of Southeast Asia

by David P. Banks

64 pp. 190mm x 130mm Hardcover. 133 colour plates.
ISBN 962-593-156-2. Available from Hills District Orchids,
P.O. Box 390, Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153 Australia.
AUD$20.00 plus $5.00 postage within Australia
E-mail: dpbanks@ozemail.com.au

There are 133 colour photos of 120 species in this compact book of 64 pages. The book is one of the series *Periplus Nature Guides*. It covers the area from northeast India to Indonesia, an area incredibly rich in tropical plants and animals, not the least of which are the orchids.

There is an amazing diversity in the orchids of the region and this is well reflected in this book. The author in his introduction hopes that ".... this book will dispel the myth that most orchid species look the same." If this is one aim of the book it certainly hits the mark, with flowers of all colours, shapes and sizes on display.

The photographs are of the almost monotonous high quality that we have come to expect of David Banks. One searches for an out of focus shot to show that he is human! But the search will be in vain on this occasion and all the photos appear to be right side up – an achievement that has eluded many recent publications.

My only gripe, and it is quite minor, is that it is a pity that room could not be found to place the name of the species immediately beside each photograph as there is sometimes some confusion in working out which photograph the names apply to. With the photographs dominating so much, the text has to take a back seat for reasons of space. However there is generally room to mention the distribution and habitat and any other pertinent features. The text is readable, to the point and accurate, with the most up to date names being used.

Seventeen genera are covered including many of those popular in cultivation. At the species level there are 24 *Dendrobium* species, 18 *Paphiopedilum*, 13 *Bulbophyllum* and 10 *Phalaenopsis*. A few notable omissions include the genera *Calanthe, Pleione* and *Spathoglottis*, but in a small book there just is not room for everything.

Among the species included in this book are many of the old favourites such as *Dendrobium nobile, Vanda coerulea* and *Paphiopedilum bellatulum*. But there are also several new or lesser-known species, many of them very interesting, including *Dendrobium tobaense, Bulbophyllum facetum* and *Vanda javierae* and three rarely photographed, but very attractive *Liparis* species.

To sum up this is a most attractively put together book. The photography is stunning and the range of species covered is well chosen to appeal both to the novice and to experienced orchid lovers. It is an excellent introduction to the orchids of Southeast Asia.

Bill Lavarack,
Pallarenda, Queensland
E-mail: lavarack@ultra.net.au

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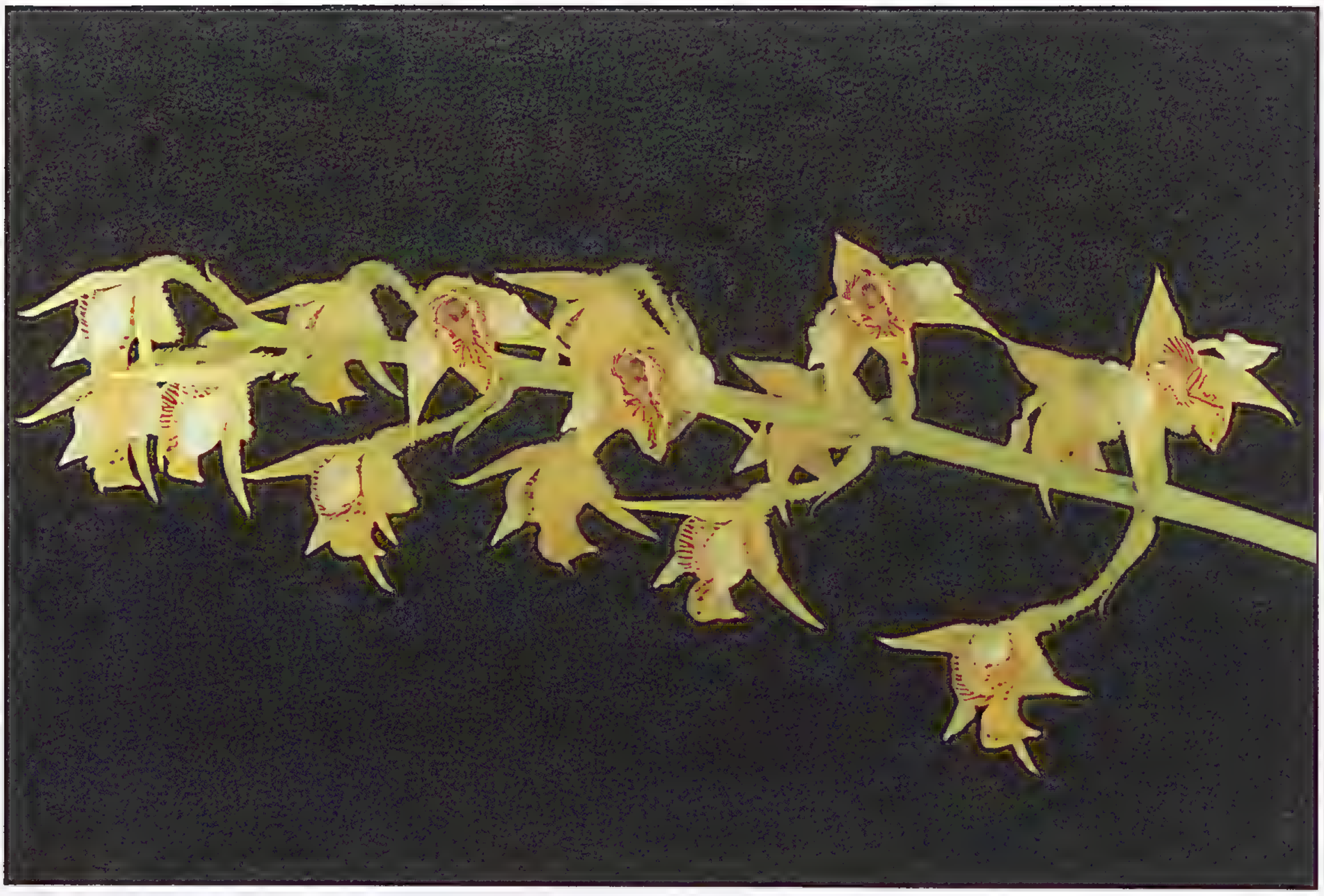
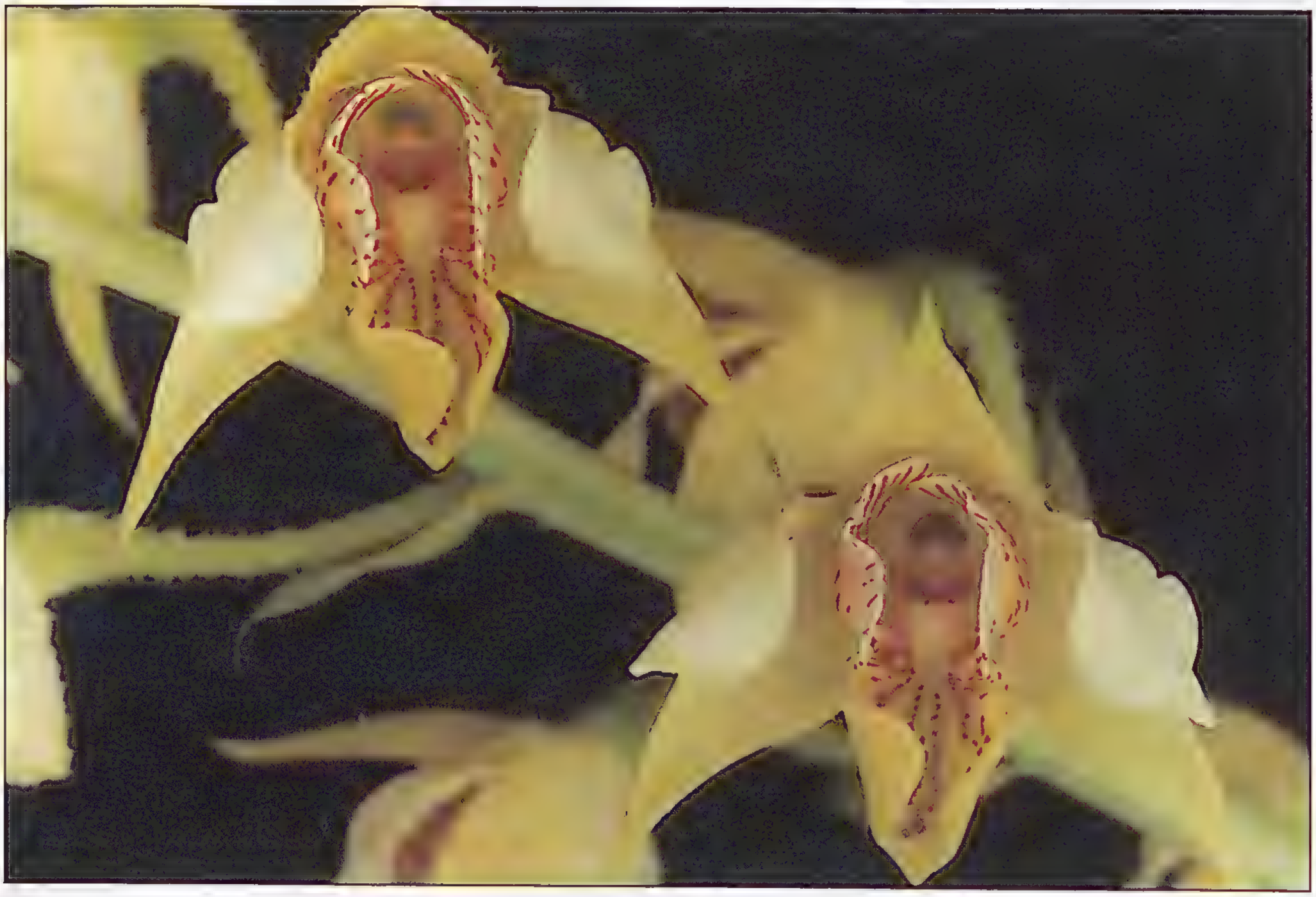


R.Roe

Dendrobium brachythecum



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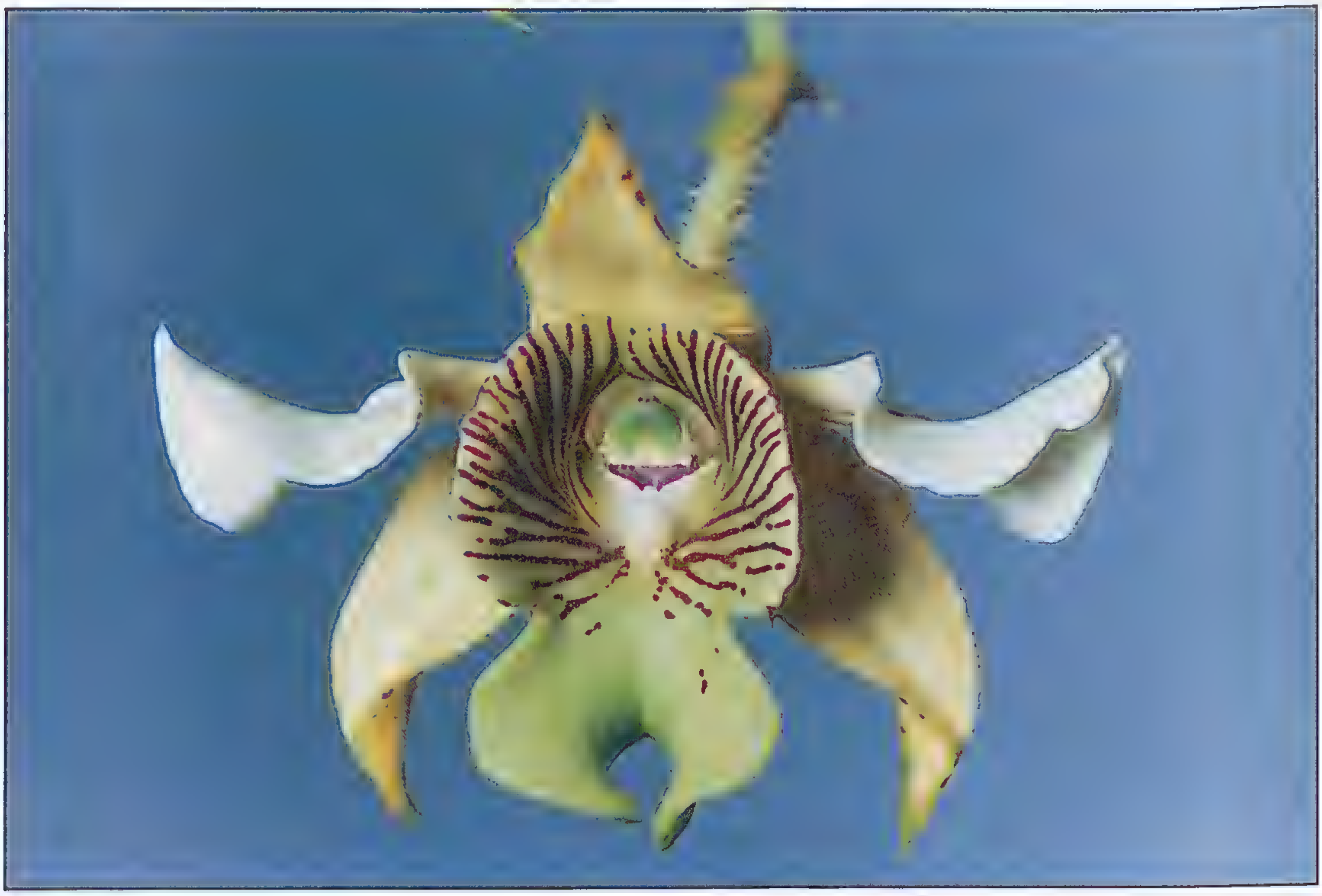
Dendrobium brachythecum



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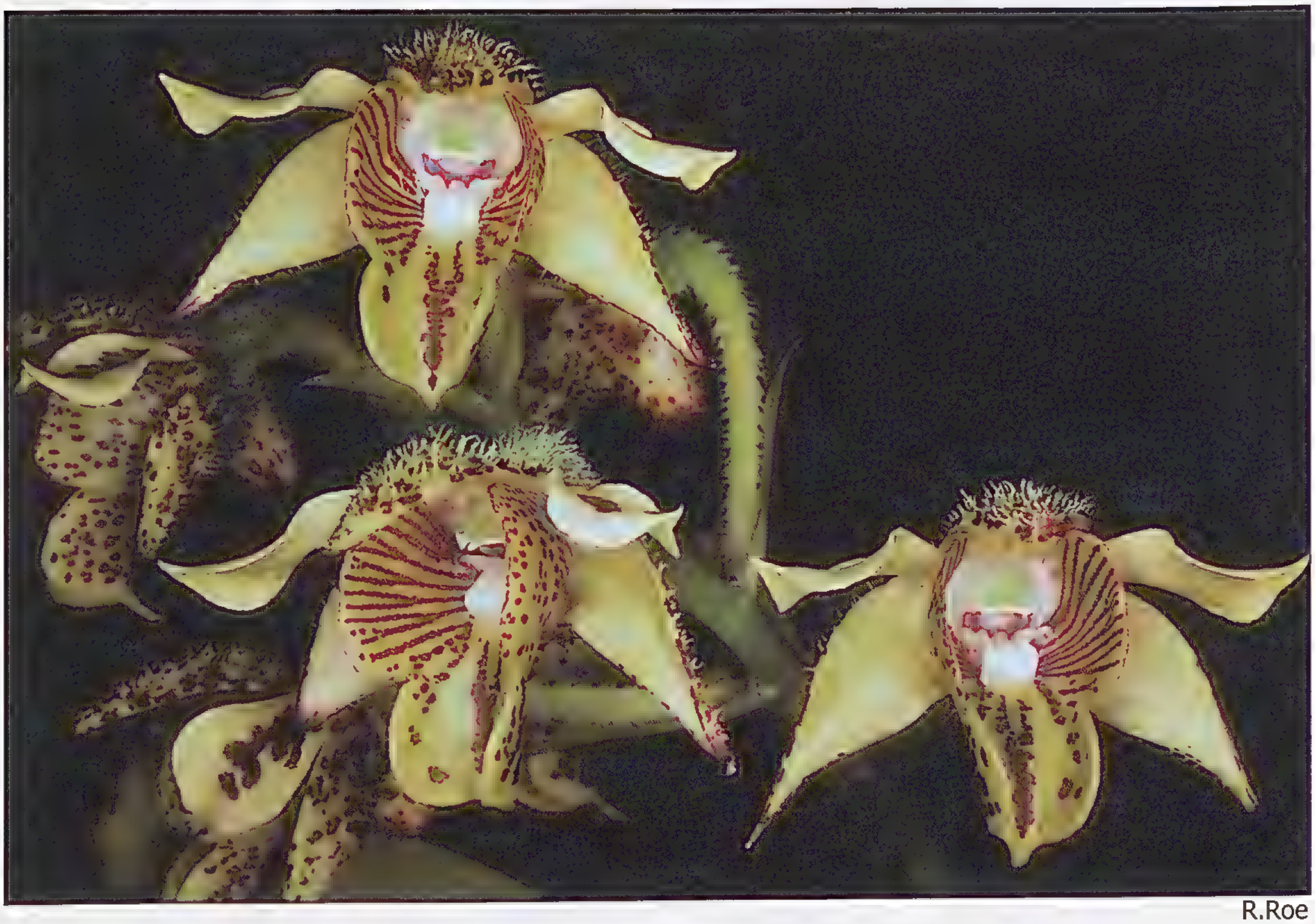
Dendrobium musciferum



R.Roe

Dendrobium gordonii

Some of the Species Related to *Dendrobium macrophyllum* A.Rich.

Phillip Spence
National Capital Botanical Gardens
Orchid Research Centre
P.O. Box 110 University NCD. Papua New Guinea

Introduction

Many of the closely related species were lumped together by Dr. Phillip J. Cribb in *A Revision of the Section Latourea. Kew Bulletin* 38 (2) 1983, as *D. macrophyllum*. From the information, I am under the impression that this revision was assessed predominately on pressed specimens. Several of these species were also placed as synonyms of *D. polysema*.

Observations

From my observations I am very strong in my opinion that the *D. macrophyllum* group of the section *Latouria*, is almost impossible to determine from pressed material, as most of the critical differences are lost when plants and flowers are pressed.

I also believe that Rudolf Schlechter was an extremely observant botanist and had a fantastic memory for finer details. I have been looking and drawing many of the *Dendrobium* Section *Latouria* for about 15 years now and have been working in the field in many countries, for example Fiji, Papua New Guinea and it's islands, Vanuatu and New Caledonia.

I have been fortunate to observe many of the different species currently reduced to *D. macrophyllum*. In there natural habitat I was puzzled how they could look so different to the eye, yet when pressed and dried, then mounted, they all looked almost the same, the main difference was the size of the flower and the labellum outline.

The Species

The first species to help unlock this riddle was *D. gordonii* from Fiji. The callus on the labellum is different to the Papua New Guinea species. Upon closer inspection of live plants, the callus and the bridge between the two side lobes of the labellum are totally different. After further inspection of more flowers there was another difference and that was a small spur on the labellum side of the column foot. A similar spur is found in the same place on *D. finisterrae* flowers. This spur also collapses to almost non-existent when the flowers are dried.

I now had positive evidence, that the bridge between the two lateral lobes and the callus was different, and when I pressed the flowers these detail dehydrated and not to be seen.

After closer inspection of *D. macrophyllum* var. *stenopterum*, which was reduced to a synonym of *D. polysema,* it was so easy to determine that it was not *D. polysema*. For a start *D. macrophyllum* var. *stenopterum* plants, when mature are about half the size of *D. polysema*. Furthermore *D. macrophyllum* var. *stenopterum* has a low number of flowers on an inflorescence (3-7) against that of *D. polysema,* which has up to forty blooms. The size of *D. macrophyllum* var. *stenopterum* flowers is about half the size of *D. polysema*.

D. macrophyllum var *stenopterum* was found in the Prince Alexander Mountains, Papua New Guinea during a recent field trip by the National Capital Botanical Gardens PNG. (Refer drawing by the author and photo.)

After a close inspection of R. Schlechter's isotype of *D. musciferum* held in Sydney, my thoughts were further confirmed that R. Schlechter was correct with his naming a new species *D. musciferum.* This common species in PNG now called *D. macrophyllum* should revert back to its original name *D. musciferum.* The size of the flowers does vary quite a lot but can easily be recognised by the bridge between the two side lobes.

This still left the problem of the species with small numerous flowers along the long inflorescence, produced from large growing plants.

Upon inspection of the bridge and callus of live material (which Schlechter mentions in his text after his descriptions), plants in flower were studied from Central Province, Milne Bay Province, Morobe Province and Sundan Province. I found they all had a common bridge and callus with the smallest amount of variation. *D. brachythecum* has been commonly known as *D. musciferum* in PNG. Cribb's revision reduced these species to synonyms of *D. macrophyllum.*

In the Philippines there is also a species of *Dendrobium* section *Latouria.* I have on three separate occasions imported plants and have cultivated these in Sydney for many years. These again differ in the callus and labellum.

Oakes Ames obviously had problems when he placed a note on the specimen from the Philippines with a proposed name of *D. setigerum* in his herbarium. At the time, this was not validly published and for some reason he decided to leave the specimen as *D. macrophyllum.*

It wasn't until December 1999 that Mark A. Clements validated the name *D. setigerum* in his paper "Two New Species of Orchidaceae from the Philippines", published in the *Australian Orchid Review.*

Notes

I haven't had a chance to visit the believed type-site in Irian Jaya of *D. macrophyllum* to see live material of this species. A plant that could fit this description is in Geoff Stocker's collection.

Summary

Cribb in the above-mentioned publication did not give any details, except that he examined the herbarium material and in his opinion they should be treated as *D. macrophyllum.*

From my research I feel that the following species should remain valid.
Dendrobium brachythecum
Dendrobium gordonii
Dendrobium macrophyllum var. *stenopterum*
Dendrobium musciferum
Dendrobium setigerum

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Papua New Guinea Orchid News - *www.orchidspng.com*

This is one of the best sites on the Internet, constructed by Wolfgang Bandisch, with the assistance of a number of high profile orchid enthusiasts. Here you will find a lot of information on the native orchids of Papua New Guinea. It is a little slow to download, but the quality is well worth the time spent. There are lots of photographs and line drawings on this site, which is continually being upgraded and expanded. Well worth a look.

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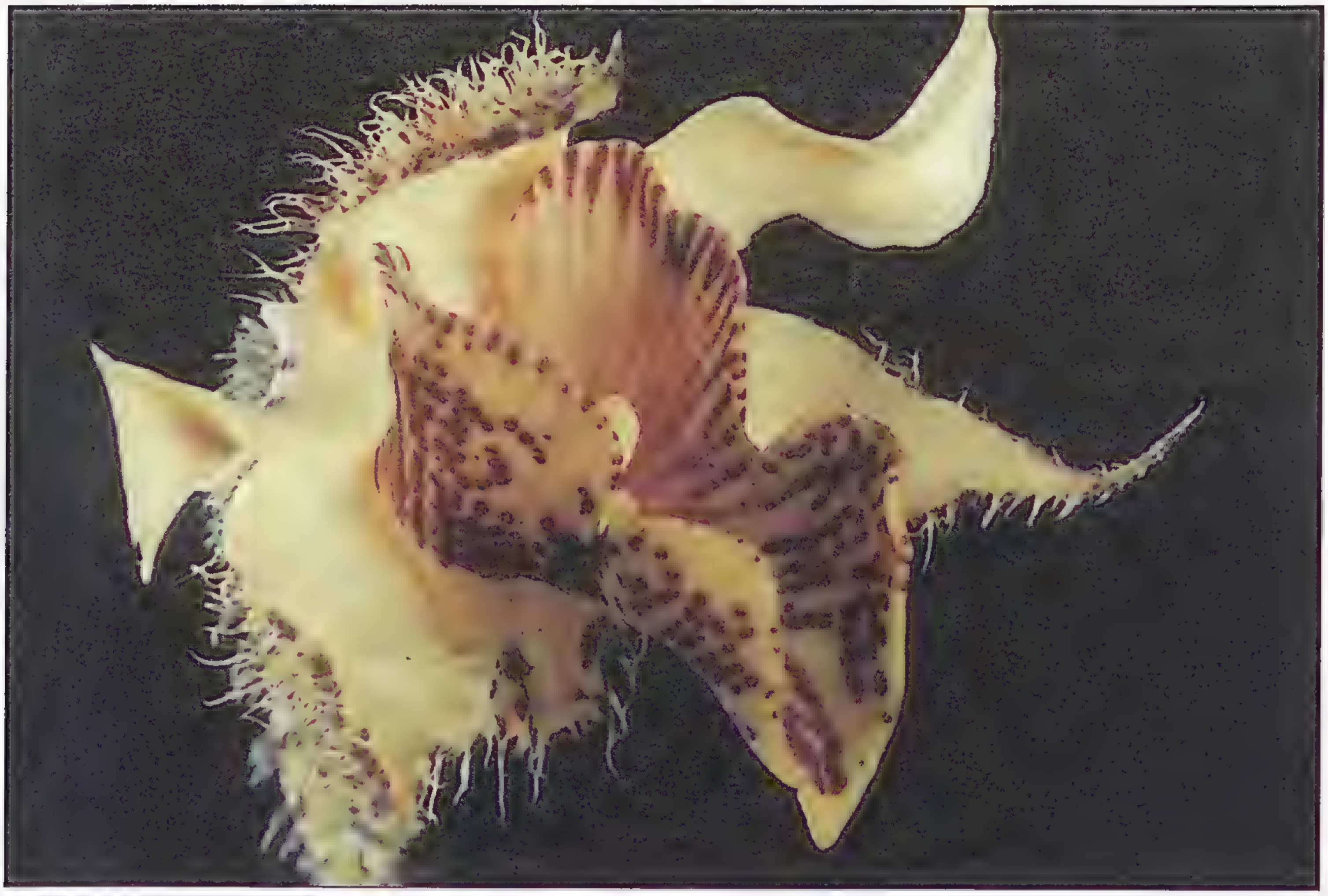
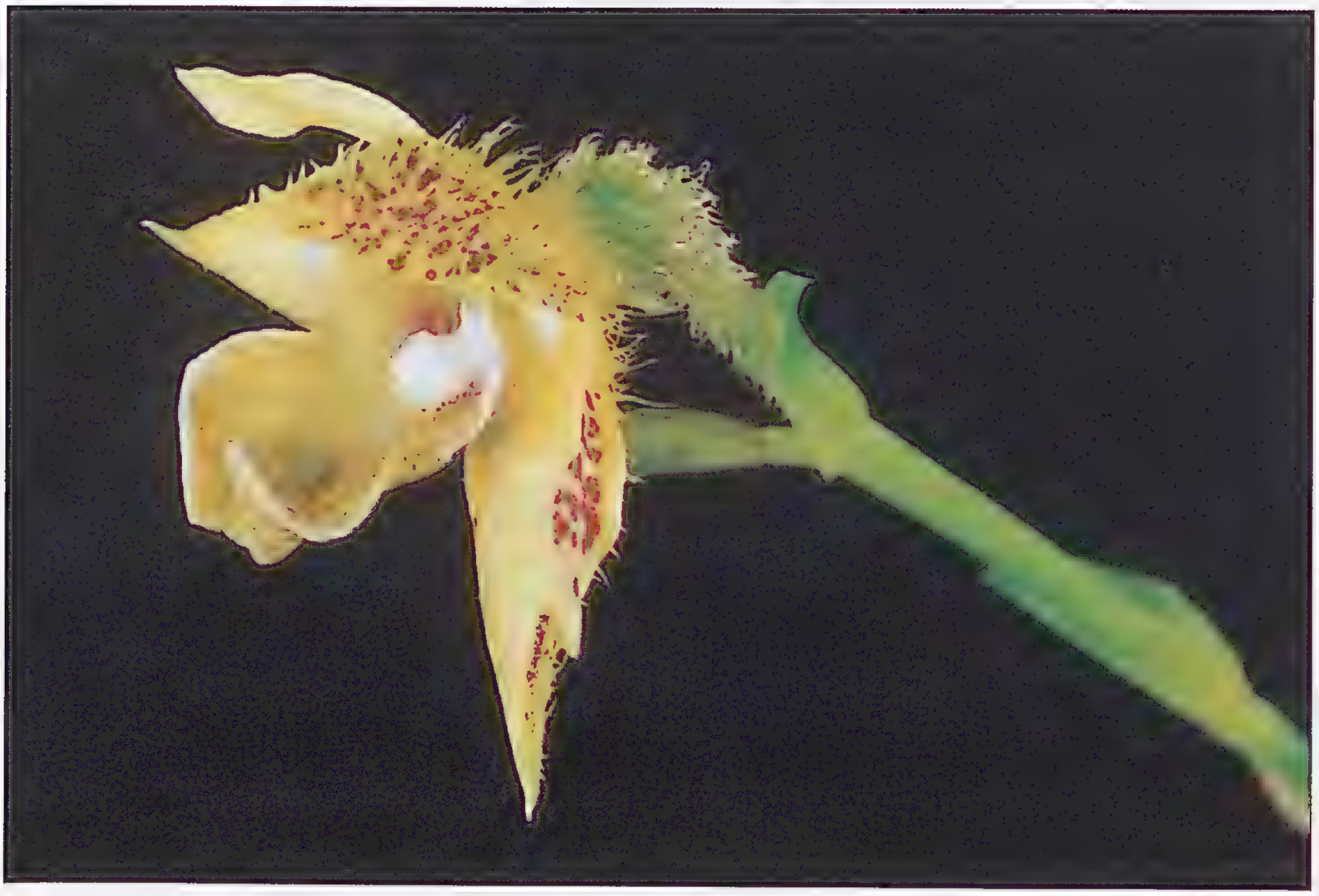


R.Roe

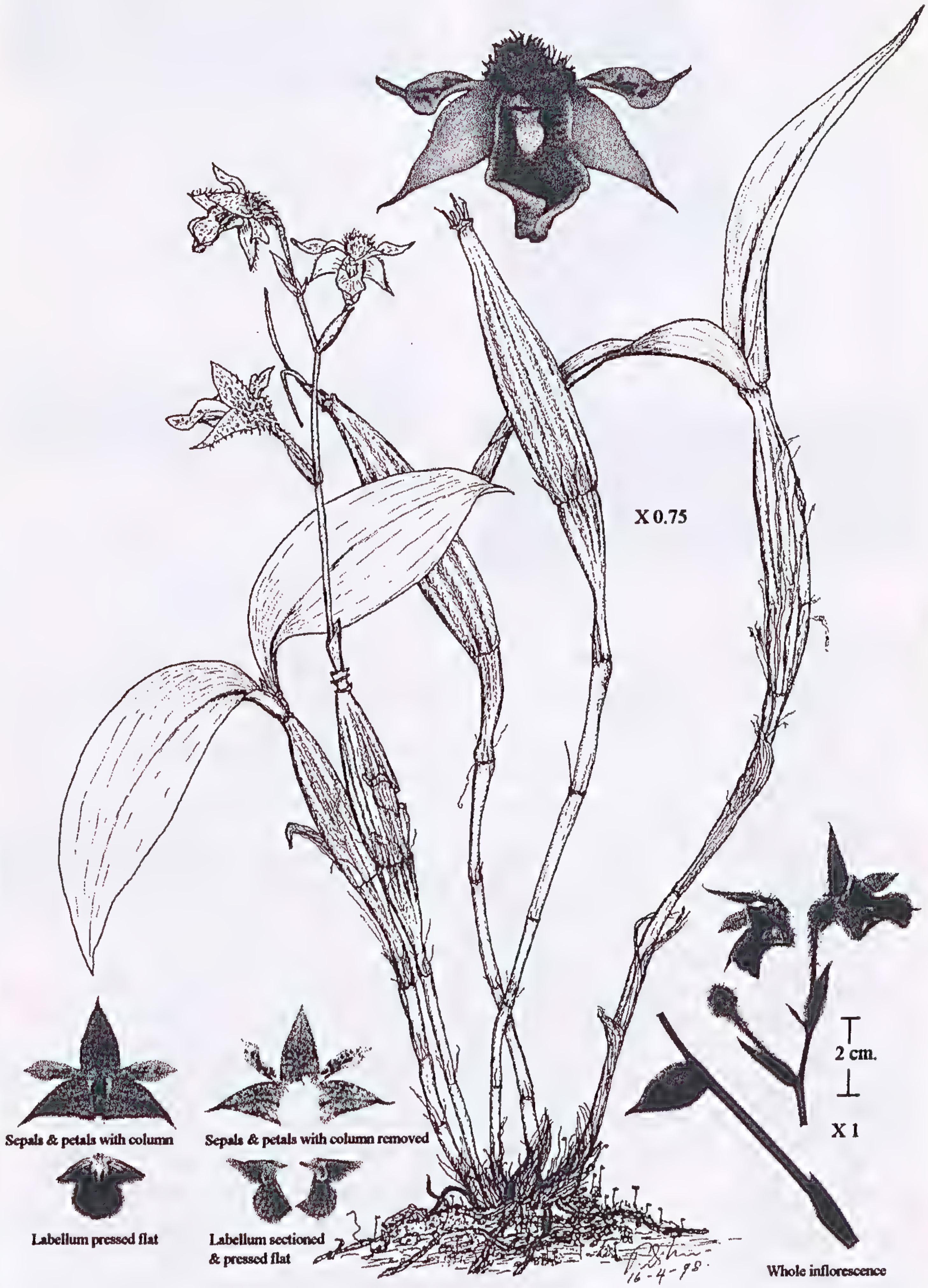
Dendrobium finisterrae



R.Roe

Dendrobium macrophyllum* var. *stenopterum

Dendrobium macrophyllum var. stenopterum (drawing by P. Spence)


X 0.75
Sepals & petals with column
Sepals & petals with column removed
Labellum pressed flat
Labellum sectioned & pressed flat
2 cm.
X 1
Whole inflorescence
16-4-98

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A Brush with an Orchid

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Born into an artistic family, I cannot remember a time when I did not paint. Even as a child, the subjects I found most appealing were the flowers and insects that abounded in my family's garden; so it is not surprising that my love of painting and a passion for flowers merged in my botanical art.

When you hear someone like Margaret Throsby interview successful artists from any field, whether it be music, theatre, dance, sculpture, painting, etc., you may be surprised to discover a recurring theme. So many of these people acknowledge an inspirational teacher who fostered their talent and encouraged them to further explore a particular path. In my case it was Mr. Marshall, my fourth grade teacher at Spotswood Primary School in the mid 1950's. It was obvious that this gentleman was deeply interested in art and the natural world, and it was he who inspired my love of nature, encouraging me to combine it with an already apparent talent for painting. There are many examples I could quote but one particular memory remains more vivid than all the others. One day, he brought in a huge bunch of chrysanthemums and distributed them amongst the class during an art lesson. Even now I will admit that chrysanthemums, because of the number of petals and the complexity of their arrangement, are not the easiest of flowers to draw, but I became totally absorbed in my drawing and remember feeling pleased that my work had turned out so well. Mr. Marshall must also have thought I produced an acceptable likeness because he pinned my effort up on the wall for everyone to see.

This was the year that I was introduced to a subject called Nature Study. As I have already mentioned, I come from an artistic family, but the artists in my family were more interested in the broader picture, painting portraits, still life subjects, landscapes and seascapes in a loose, impressionistic manner. I broke with family tradition very early, when I began to look closely at animals, birds, insects, fungi and flowers, and realised that I preferred to paint precise, highly detailed images against a white background. (It was only in later years that I learnt this is the traditional way of presenting scientific studies of flora and fauna.) After each lesson I could hardly wait to get home and find a specimen to paint, and if I couldn't find a live specimen I would faithfully copy a drawing or photograph from a reference book. My Nature Study book was certainly lavishly illustrated, and at the end of the year Mr. Marshall kept my book to show to future classes. Although flattered at the time, I am now disappointed that I don't have a single example of my early work, because subsequent teachers also kept my books. (Funnily enough, not one teacher ever wanted my arithmetic or maths books, which were also lavishly illustrated but, alas, contained very few correct answers!)

But, you may well ask, what has all this got to do with orchids? Keep reading, we are getting there.

One day, about five years after we were married, Alex and I dropped in at my parents' place and caught my father repotting his cymbidiums. Dad asked Alex if he would like to take a few home. The reply? "I wouldn't mind trying a few!" The dreaded orchiditis had struck! Then, about 1980, we heard of a native orchid show being held at the Herbarium. Wow! At a subsequent show we joined up and have been attending A.N.O.S. Victorian Group meetings ever since.

Not long after joining the Society, we visited friends who had moved to a property in Gippsland. While exploring their bush block, we came across a colony of leafy green rosettes that Alex identified as native orchids. Our friends potted up a few for us to take home, but none of us had a clue what they were. One plant eventually flowered, in between meetings, of course.

I hadn't done any serious painting for several years, but this little orchid was inspiring. I took care to draw it as accurately as possible and, in doing so, learnt a valuable lesson about botanic art. The orchid had a deformed labellum. What should I do? Should I take artistic licence and straighten it out, or should I paint it as I saw it? After much deliberation, and contrary to the advice of my life's partner, I opted to paint what I saw. I took my finished painting to the next meeting and asked the "experts" to identify the plant. They were unanimous in their decision, saying "that's *Pterostylis curta*; it's got a twisted labellum!"

During my working years, and the years I'd spent raising our son, my art had been neglected, dwindling into what can only be described as a hobby. But, with the painting of that little orchid, my interest was miraculously revived. I began working in earnest and joined the Altona Art Society where our monthly competition gave me the opportunity to explore a wide range of avenues. However, more and more, I was drawn towards floral subjects, and two exhibitions at the Herbarium by noted botanical artists confirmed that this was the course I wanted to pursue.

Because botanical illustration is both a science and an art, a botanical artist must juggle the two disciplines and produce an image that explains why a particular species differs from all other plants. In other words, to show those features that make a lily a lily, a daisy a daisy or an orchid an orchid. The artist must also explain, with meticulous attention to scientific accuracy, how one species of orchid differs from another orchid because, regardless of what standard is achieved in artistry, plant paintings containing inaccuracies cannot be considered as botanical art.

There are several ways botanical artists can approach a subject. Sometimes we can be compared to portrait painters but, instead of painting people's faces, we produce plant portraits. Like figure painters we may display the whole plant, including its roots or tubers. Artists with access to a microscope will frequently show in their works magnifications and dissections of the plant's floral segments (its petals, sepals, stamens, stigma, ovary, etc.), or an artist may choose to include the small patch of ground immediately surrounding the subject and give an indication of its natural habitat.

You may think that painting flowers is easier than painting chooks, cheetahs or children. At least they sit still! Or do they? While a botanical illustrator is working the specimen may be slowly changing position. Buds unfold and become full blown blooms that fade and die and, eventually, drop. They follow the light, so that a flower that is facing east in the morning could well be facing west by late afternoon. Every gardener knows that a rose bud, freshly picked one morning, may become a cabbage rose by the following day ... and petals on the floor by the third. And then there are flowers, like Sun Orchids (*Thelymitra*), that open only in bright light, and close again as the sun sets. So painting flowers is not always as simple as it seems!

After a string of shared exhibitions, I staged my first solo exhibition in 1989 – *Orchids & Butterflies of the Castlemaine District* was an outstanding success. Other solo exhibitions and displays followed. My work is represented in private, corporate and national collections worldwide; and you may have seen some of my native orchid paintings reproduced in *The Orchadian*, the quarterly journal of the Australasian Native Orchid Society. Several companies are using my work on a range of products including plates, mugs, placemats, decals, cards and stationery.

During the course of my career, I have accepted numerous private and corporate commissions, including watercolours of indigenous species of various regions, popular garden plants for cards and calendars, and Australian plant designs for use on stationery, china, etc. After suggestions from prominent art judges that I produce a book, I have had the majority of my recent work professionally scanned onto computer disc. All I need now is the time to write a few words about each illustration.

When I am not painting I am probably using my desktop publisher. My illustrated short stories have appeared occasionally in popular publications and, several years ago, I became Editor of A.N.O.S. Victorian Group's monthly newsletter, a position I continue to find both challenging and rewarding.

While orchids are amongst my favourite subjects, I do paint a lot of other plants and have recently completed a commission for a set of Australian butterflies. Last year (1999), I accepted an invitation to be resident artist for the Habitat Trust at the CRT Resource Centre in Altona North, only five minutes from my home.

My aim is to produce works that depict the indigenous flora of the wetlands, grasslands and basalt plains of Melbourne's west (including several terrestrial orchids) to show the public that **all** native flora, not just the biggest, brightest or most beautiful species, should be preserved for future generations. Please take a close look at my botanical watercolours, for I hope they will inspire you to appreciate the fragile beauty that surrounds us.

You are most welcome to visit the Helene Wild Botanic Art Gallery at the CRT Resource Centre, open from Monday to Friday during office hours, but please make an appointment by first telephoning the Habitat Trust on (03) 9290-1705. It may be possible for groups to arrange a viewing at other times. Enquiries are always welcome, and I am happy to accept commissions. Limited copyright may be available on some works. Depending on the size and complexity of the subject, prices for an original watercolour begin at about $100 to whatever. You may like to visit my web site where you will discover I don't paint only orchids.

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Len Lawler (left) **receiving the AOF Award from Bill Lavarack**

Len Lawler Honored by the Australian Orchid Foundation

Bill Lavarack
37 Bay St, Pallarenda Qld 4810
E-mail: lavarack@ultra.net.au

On Sunday 5th December Len Lawler was presented with an Award of Honour by the Australian Orchid Foundation (AOF). Len has been instrumental in the presentation of similar awards to other prominent orchid personalities such as Alick Dockrill, Ken MacPherson and Jack Wilkie so it was most appropriate that he should now be a recipient.

Orchids have been Len's passion for almost half a century and his contribution to the study and conservation of Australian orchids is well known to his many friends and to many who have never met him. His scientific achievements before he retired to the Atherton Tableland included the epic publication *Ethnobotany of the Orchidaceae*. This was published in Joseph Arditti's *Orchid Biology Reviews and Perspectives volume 2* and remains the definitive work on the subject. This paper is 123 pages long and at the end there are over 1000 references – a clear indication of the work that went into its making.

Since then Len has worked with many local orchid societies from Cooktown to Brisbane, giving talks, leading field trips hunting for rare and new species and assisting societies and individuals with information and in many other ways. He has always been a staunch advocate of the AOF and was the inspiration behind the AOF's orchid seed bank and was its first curator, setting it on the successful course which it now follows.

In recent years Len has become known for his regular contributions to The *Australian Orchid Review* entitled "Looking back" in which he highlights events described in old copies of the *Australian Orchid Review.* He has also produced some interesting historical research on orchid identities such as Jack Wilkie and Alf Glindermann.

Dr Bill Lavarack made the presentation in the garden of Geoff and Jacqui Stocker at Malanda on a sunny morning. There were guests from many north Queensland orchid societies from Mossman to Townsville, many of whom paid tribute to Len and his work. Notable among the guests were orchid experts Alick Dockrill and Bruce Gray, orchid artist Mair Swan and numerous local personalities including Noel Grundon, Lex Barton, Trevor Ford, Ray Robinson, Min Korsman, Wal and Jean Nicholson, Joan Hedges, Don MacPherson, Ron Savage, Jim Allen, Joe Mackin, Barbara Landski and Enid Collins. Everyone was pleased to see Len looking healthy after his serious operation earlier in the year.

- The citation for the Award of Honour to Leonard Joseph Lawler reads:
- That he was the first curator of the Orchid Seed Bank, which is now often quoted as a major conservation initiative of the AOF.
- That he gained his fellowship of the Australian Institute of Medical Scientists with a thesis on "Biochemical Investigation of Australian Orchidaceae".
- That he served on the AOF Research Committee and was Chairman for a period.
- That his paper "Ethnobotany of the Orchidaceae" remains the definitive work on the subject and consists of 123 pages of enormous detail on uses for food, medicines, decoration and as a source of fibre. He is recognised as a world expert on the topic.
- That he has written over twenty papers on scientific topics relating to orchids.
- That he has been deeply involved in the study of North Queensland orchids, recording the distribution of rare species.
- That he has collected specimens of new and interesting orchids which were made available to scientists and herbaria.
- That he discovered a new species of *Malaxis* near Rossville, south of Cooktown, and that it was subsequently named in his honour: *Malaxis lawleri.*
- That he is held in great respect and high esteem by the orchid fraternity throughout Australia and the world.

Previous recipients of the AOF Award of Honour are:

- George Henry Slade AM
- William "Bill" Murdoch
- Gerald McCraith AM
- Alick W. Dockrill
- Kenneth A. MacPherson
- John Henry Wilkie
- Dr. John H. (Jack) Warcup
- Walter Thomas Upton

L.J. Lawler - Publications on Orchids

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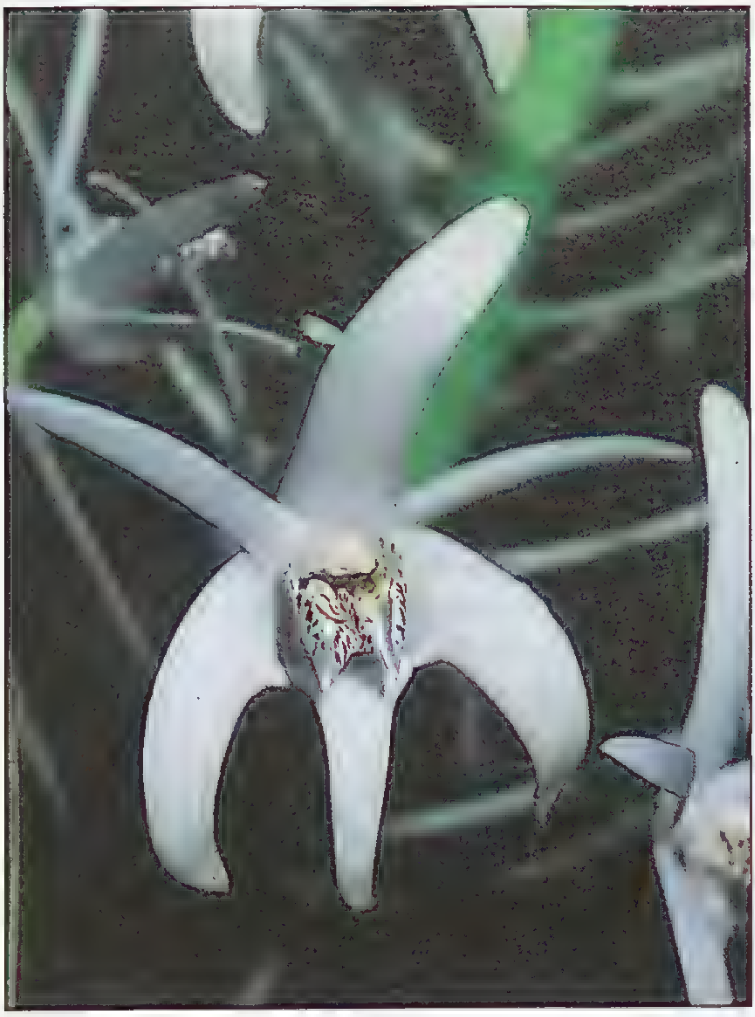
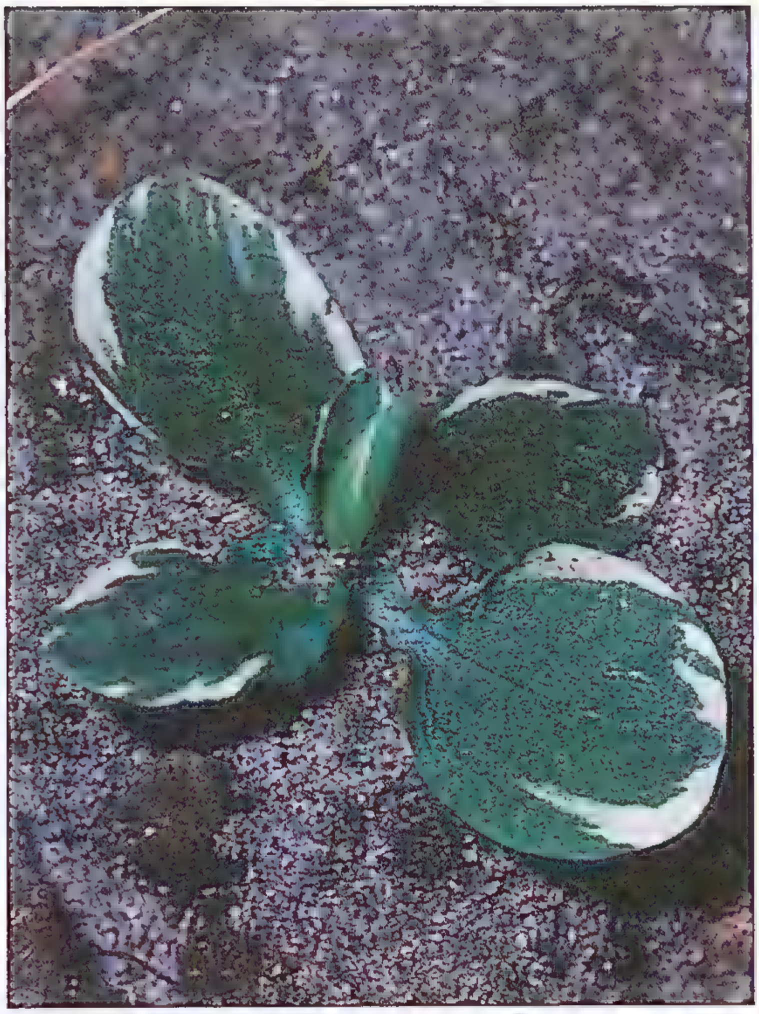


A. Stephenson

Dendrobium speciosum
with deformed flower



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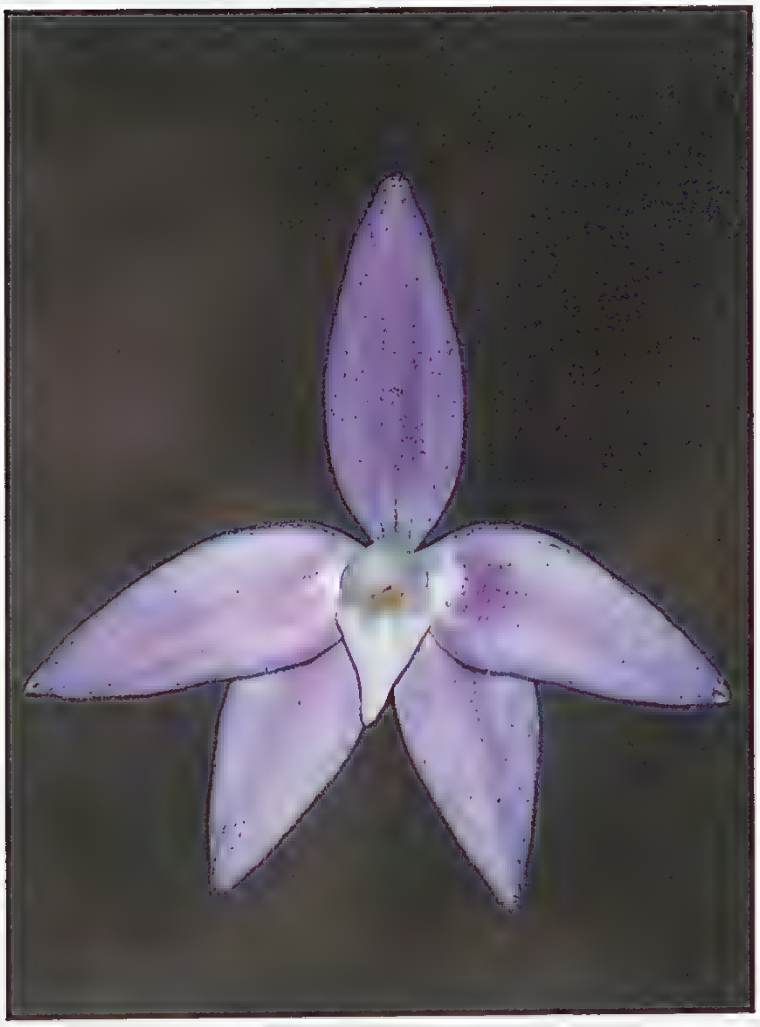
Pterostylis curta
Variegated form - Comerong Island, NSW



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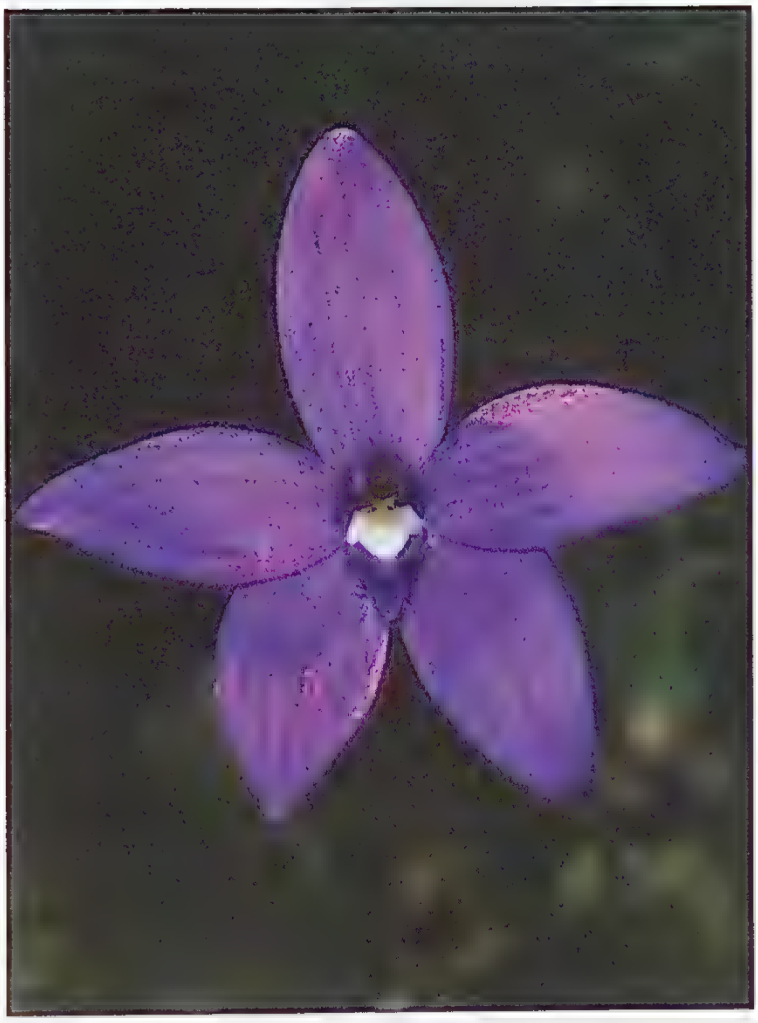
Glossodia major
with white labellum



A. Stephenson

Glossodia (major x minor)
Natural hybrid

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

Alan Stephenson
43 McKay St., Nowra NSW 2541
E-mail almich@shoal.net.au

So you thought your entire orchid problems were at home. Think again orchidophiles. Just take a stroll through your nearest remaining hectare of bush and have another look.

As one who enjoys walking through the great variety of habitat types in the Nowra area, from rainforest to eucalypt, beach-side scrub, heathland, the occasional swamp and through the numerous semi-bare vegetation patches under high tension lines, I have learned to "never say never". That is to never say an orchid does not or will not grow in a particular site or beyond a geographical point determined by those who write books, because sometimes those writers need information from us hobbyists. Conversely these same hobbyists should relay any information regarding rare or different finds so all may benefit from collected facts.

That is only part of the story. All orchid growers experience occasional cultural problems with their plants, whether it is in the form of a pest, disease or something more sinister. This means using words that make orchid growers turn pale. Words such as "deformed" and "virus". One theory regarding some plants found in the scrub that is quickly thrown up as a cause for these problems is "the plants are getting too much radiation from the high tension lines". Piffle I say, with a dash of non-scientific petulance, the radiation has not affected me, me, me, me. Anyway the doctor said a tablet a day would mask the obvious symptoms.

No, but seriously folks some of these things have sprung to mind when something out of the ordinary is encountered and in a recent review of some photographs I have taken, this became apparent. There have been many orchids that have caught my eye just because the bits do not count to six, or occasionally number seven.

I have seen and photographed all of the 16 epiphytic/lithophytic species that are found locally, but of the approximately 120 species of terrestrials, which are alleged to inhabit the district, I have only photographed about 60%. Still a way to go but this area is home to a few in the "never say never" category. *Dendrobium tetragonum* is at its southern habitat extremity in one of the many local gorges, *Calanthe triplicata* also, an hour or so down the Princes Highway, and the recent finds of *Pterostylis gibbosa* and *Rhizanthella slateri* certainly made the blood course through the veins.

Purple donkey orchids are also known from about five different sites. I hesitate to call all or any of them *Diuris punctata* as it is obvious all are not the same.

However apart from the above, it is those exhibiting a peculiarity or two that end up at the end of my lens. The most recent was a group of rosettes, identified as *Pterostylis curta*. These were the usual glossy green but with a pale yellow border. A later visit to the site proved the flowers to be normal with only the rosette leaves variegated. There were many colonies and individual plants of *Pterostylis curta* in the area but only this colony exhibited variegated leaves. The forty plants covered an area approximately one-metre square. Other *Pterostylis* species and orchid genera were unmarked.

Deformed flowers of *Pterostylis curta* have also been found at another site and at a third location several plants were found which exhibited similarities between *Pterostylis curta* and *Pterostylis erecta*. These plants were unlike the normal *Pterostylis curta* in that the galea measured 8 mm at the widest point and the free points of the ventral sepals 12 mm apart. *Pterostylis parviflora* in rock shelf country have also been noted with deformities.

Sarcochilus falcatus is a species usually found on trees and rarely on rocks and the latter occurs (to my knowledge) in one place only in the Shoalhaven Shire. The plants are not great specimens and I have only seen them supporting a few flowers of somewhat less than showbench quality.

Of all the clones of the highly desirable and sweetly perfumed botanical gem which grows up and down the coast and ranges I have been fortunate to see but one *Liparis reflexa* at home on a tree.

Now to an orchid considered as good as anything in its class. Even *Dendrobium speciosum* 'National White' is not safe from trouble. The division of a friend displayed one odd flower among many on a typical foxtail raceme, which looked like Jake The Peg with three ventral sepals. Selfings of this clone have also displayed spotted flowers, which are now considered to be virused.

Terrestrial orchids are supposed to be just that, terrestrial, but obviously not all have been told they must grow in the ground to the exclusion of other places. It is well known some species are often found growing in mosses on rocks and *Dipodium pictum* does grow as both a terrestrial and epiphyte. But species of *Caladenia, Cryptostylis* and *Calanthe* in trees? Fortunately there exists at least one witness in each case other than a photographic record to prove otherwise. *Caladenia carnea*, *Cryptostylis subulata* and *Calanthe triplicata* have all been seen in an arboreal habitat. (Perhaps some license was used in this determination.) This is without partaking of substances derived from certain plants sometimes found during my walks. These certain plants must be quite valuable as they are often inside a protective chicken wire enclosure.

The next genus is the one that started me on the path of photographing the odd things. *Glossodia major* is one of many favourites, in part because of the large colonies which can be found, and its classic shape. However my observations of this species has noted more strange occurrences in flower shape than any other. The first instance was a clone with an all white labellum. It has been the only one I have seen and may be considered probably just a one off. In another location under yet another network of high-tension lines is the habitat of at least ten genera and 20 species yet only one genus is affected. In consecutive years the hundreds of clones of *Glossodia major* flowered with large colour breaks. This occurred with every plant, not just a few here and there. The occasional deformed flower has also been found along with some alba clones, with pure white blooms. Some plants were hard to identify as either *G. major* or *G. minor* as flower size and shape favoured *G. minor* but white markings on and around the labella of these plants indicated to my non-scientific eye as not following the descriptions of either species.

Just as this article was being completed my orchid hunting companion, Craig Stuckey and I saw fit to investigate a section of scrub in the Jervis Bay area, which we had driven past countless times. As luck would have it we encountered *Calochilus grandiflorus*, which is alleged to occur in coastal areas north from Gosford. Although in conversations with Leo Cady and Ron Tunstall, both indicate having seen the orchid in this area.

Trying to grow native orchids successfully at home can be both frustrating and rewarding. We think we have all the problems in the back yard but I feel any problem experienced at home is also experienced "out there" in this amazing landscape of ours. All manner of problems including ants, mealy bug, scale, botrytis, and anything which can chew a leaf or flower, so swallow your complaints and keep on growing. At least most of us do not have to contend with wombats and wallabies using our plants as a food source in addition to those already mentioned. It certainly makes me feel a little better about my efforts on the home front.

I enjoy my bushwalking, as it helps maintain my sanity away from the crazy hours I work. It also blends well with my desire to photograph almost anything even slightly differing from an expected norm. My training has been limited to opportunity, observation and the desire to eventually stumble over as many local species as possible and be able to say "I saw that and can prove it with this photograph".

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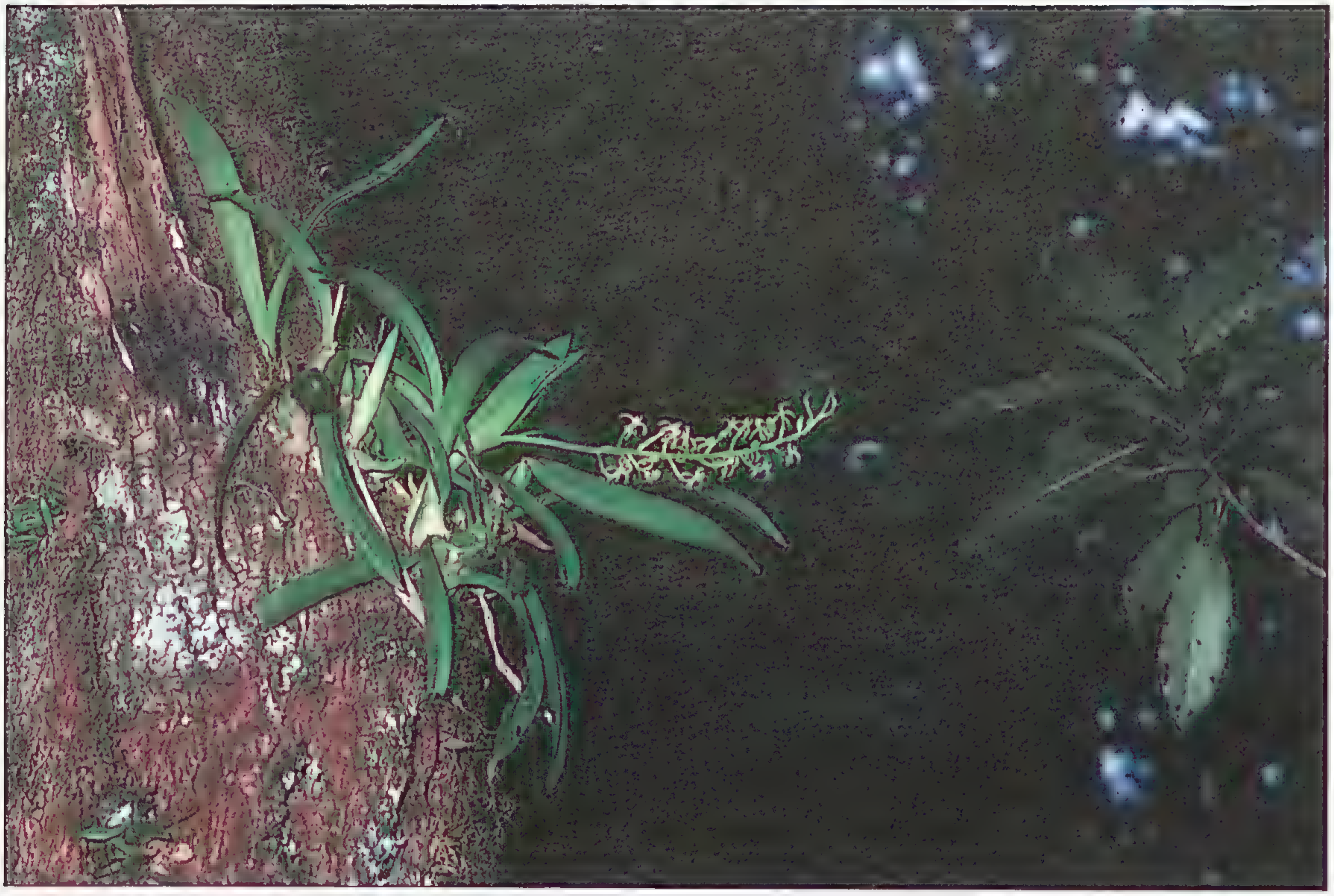
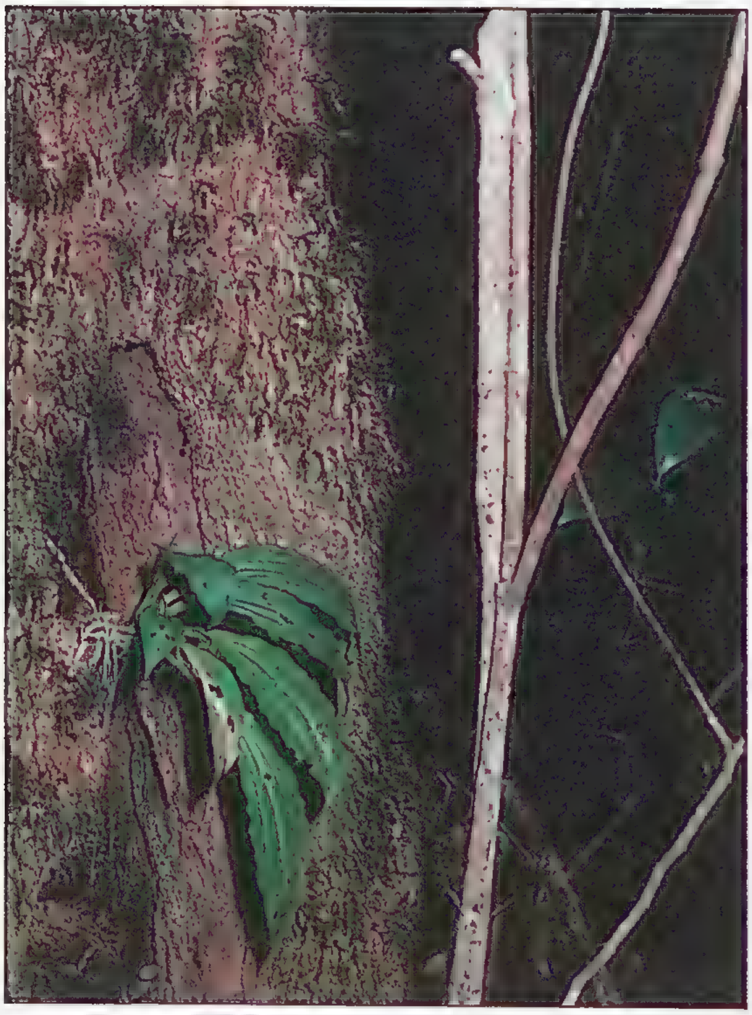


A. Stephenson

Liparis reflexa as an epiphyte.



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Calanthe triplicata
Growing on a tree

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Cryptostylis subulata
Growing in the fork of a tree

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My Years in ANOS

Barry Collins
32 Panorama Parade
Berkeley Vale NSW 2261

I became associated with the Australasian Native Orchid Society (ANOS) back in late 1962, when I met the late Eric Gordon in Oxford Street, Darlinghurst. Eric had a furniture factory nearby. He told me about the possible formation of a Native Orchid Group and he was looking for prospective members. So I gave him two pounds (which was about $4- back then).

Prior to this, I had been with Eric on a number of field trips looking for orchids for a project at Stony Range in the Warringah area. Whenever

I had time off work, Eric would gather a few of his friends and the group would travel to many of the outer Sydney areas. Unfortunately, a majority of this group are no longer with us, having passed onto the orchid heaven above. Charlie Cottee, John Logan, Jack Evan, Reg Leaney to name a few. The highlight of each trip was the trip to the local Hotel at the end of the day. Eric always had full control of all gathered. In 1963 ANOS was officially formed with the persons mentioned above and myself being amongst the foundation members.

ANOS was active at the Orchid Society of New South Wales (OSNSW) Spring Show at the Sydney Town Hall. The main stage area was alive with Australian native orchids. It was the feature of each show, to have the stage covered with Australian native gems.

The Sixth World Orchid Conference came to Sydney in 1969. A committee was formed to organise a number of native orchid displays. The world was not disappointed as the native orchids certainly stole the show. Even since the first display of native orchids in the Town Hall, they have been a feature at the OSNSW and Affiliated Societies shows.

I decided to become active within my local group – Warringah. I joined their committee in 1985 and became President in 1988. It was at one of their meetings that I was again approached by Eric Gordon, suggesting that I stand for ANOS Council. So I nominated for Council and was elected Vice President under Walter T. Upton. I held this position from 1988 to 1991.

Arrangements were in force to hold our first ever National Australasian Orchid Show and Conference. The area selected was Wollongong and the show was to be held at the University of Wollongong. The Wollongong and District Native Orchid Society (now ANOS Illawarra), being the host group. Various committees were formed under the chairmanship of Ron Wheeldon. All members of ANOS Council had positions on these committees.

Wal Upton had moved to the Central Coast from Sydney. As I was working in Sydney at the time, Wal would drive down and pick me up on the way to Wollongong for all the meetings.

The Show and Conference was a wonderful success. Fortunately, a lot of the overseas registrants came straight from the World Orchid Conference held in Auckland, New Zealand.

In 1991 I became President of ANOS Council. It was the first of two periods as President. I made a point of trying to attend as many of the ANOS Groups. It was an exercise in promoting ANOS, as some groups expressed that they felt neglected by the Council.

1993 saw the Second ANOS Conference and Show held in Toowoomba, Queensland. This time Clarrie Wuth was the Conference Chairman. There were not the numbers of overseas registrants in attendance as there were in 1990 at Wollongong. The feature was the display that ANOS Sydney Group mounted. They travelled all the way there, won first prize for the display and a majority of the Championships and prizes. The show was a little too far out of town for the public to attend. Again the Show and Conference was a success.

In 1995 I had a year as Immediate Past President and Bob Napier had a year as President. On a number of occasions I filled in for Bob. Again I was back in the chair as President in 1996. It was the year for South Australia to host the Third ANOS Conference.

Late in 1995, Bob & Janet Napier, John & Yvonne Turner and myself drove to South Australia to meet the committee controlling the conference. The Chairman was Gerry Carne. We met the various sub-committees and visited the Show and Conference venue at Flinders University. Again ANOS Sydney Group journeyed to Adelaide and took home most of the prizes.

I have really enjoyed my time on ANOS Council. I did state that I would try to visit as many as possible of the affiliated ANOS groups but due to time and distance I failed to visit all.

I would like to thank a few people who have supported me. Firstly Wal Upton. Wal encouraged me all the time. I was lucky to have served under Wal, when he was President of OSNSW. When I came onto the ANOS Council, Wal was again there to lead. Bob and Janet Napier, where could you find a more dedicated couple to fully rely on to carry out all the work they do for any organization. Thanks a million for all the work you have done for the Council and the support you have given me. To all the other members of the Council – past and present – I would say thanks.

Our publication *The Orchadian* needs to be mentioned. It is the lifeblood of the Council and we are fortunate to have two Editors that have put our native orchids on the world stage. The former Editor, Wal Upton and the current Editor, David Banks.

Finally, I was glad that the late Eric Gordon stopped me that day in Oxford Street back in 1962.

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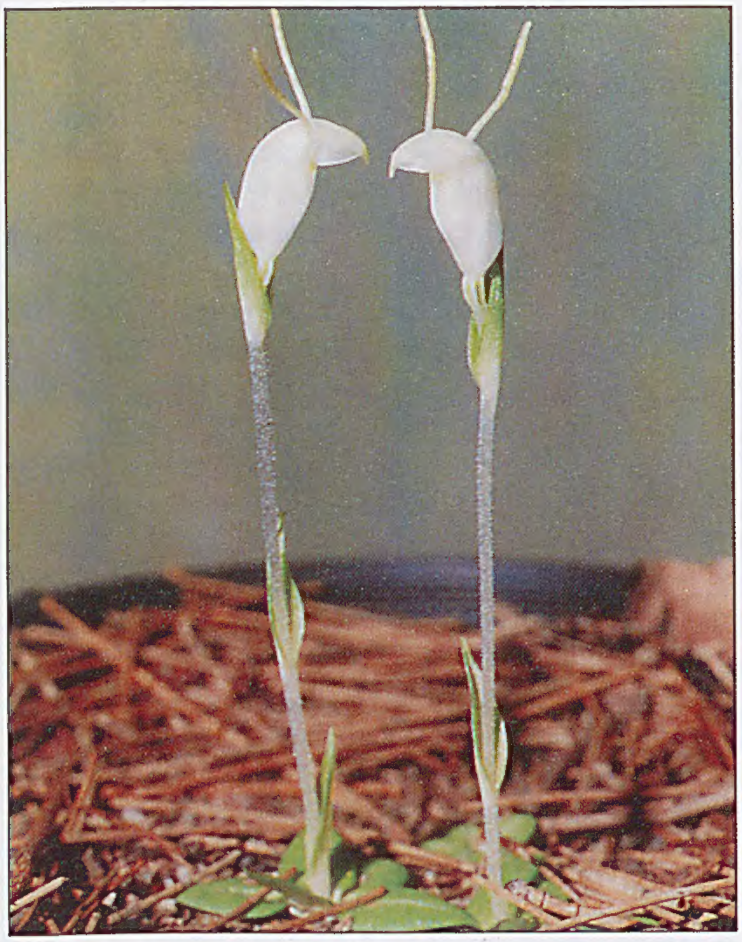
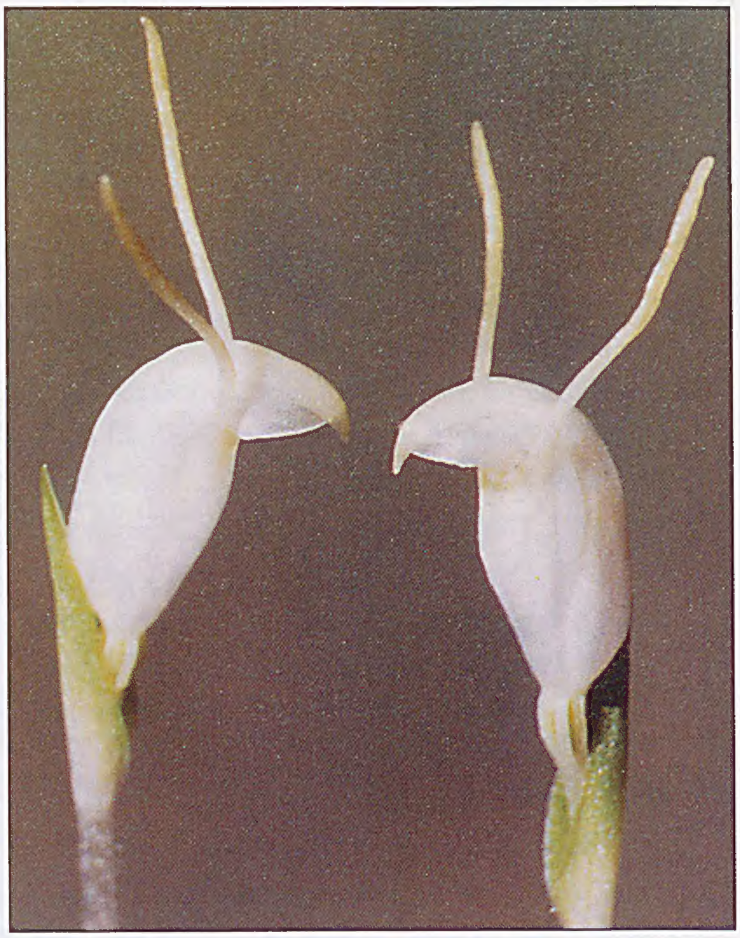


Thelma O'Neill

Pterostylis nana
from Adelaide Hills, South Australia



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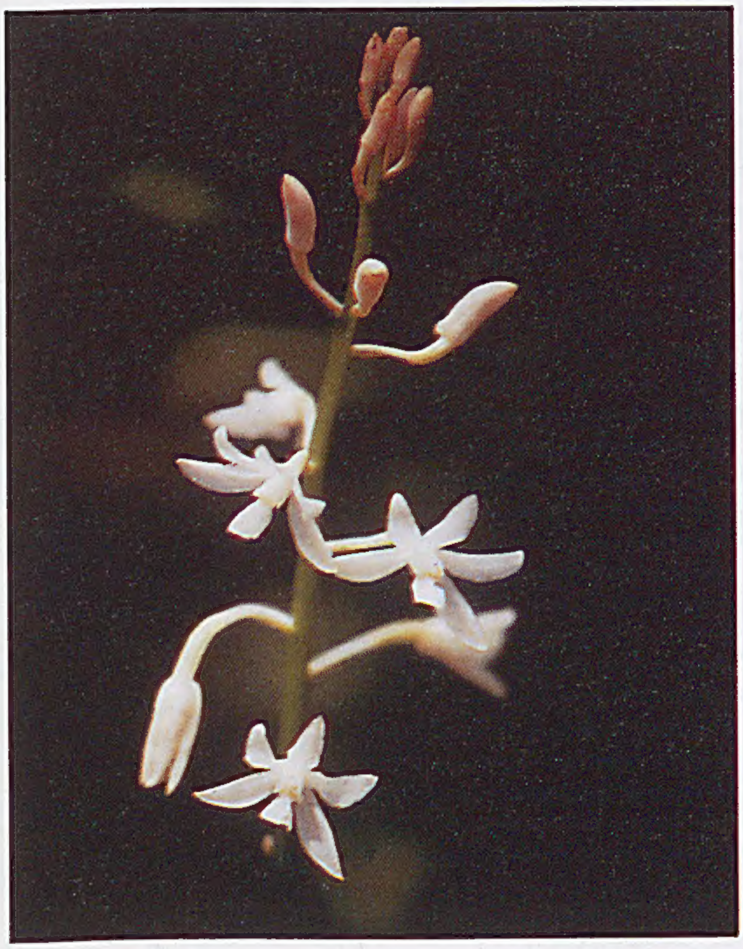
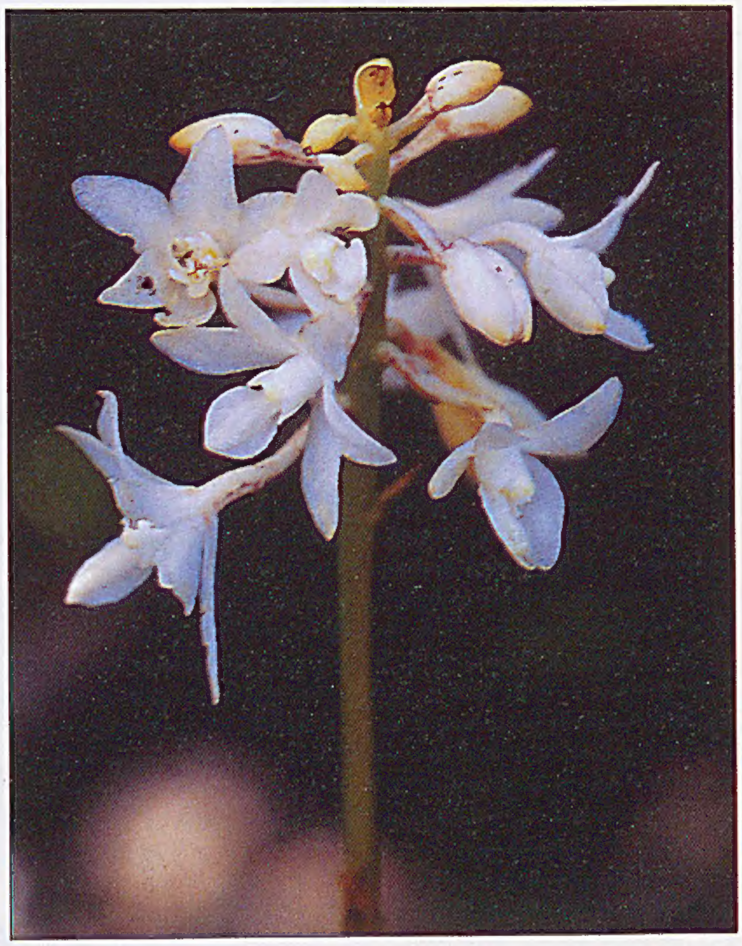


Ralph Crane

Dipodium punctatum
from Brisbane State Forest, Queensland



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- **Native Orchid Society of South Australia**, P.O. Box 565 Unley 5061. ☎(08) 8356-7356. Meetings 8pm, 4th Tue. each month. St. Matthews Hall, 67 Bridge St., Kensington.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

- **ANOS Western Australia**, 95A Ewen St., Scarborough 6019. ☎(08) 9341-6709. Meetings 8pm, 2nd Mon. each month. Wilson Community Hall, Brailbrise Rd., Wilson.

NEW ZEALAND

- **ANOS New Zealand**, 20 Fairlands Ave., Waterview, Auckland, New Zealand.
- **ANOG**, 51A Glenharrow Ave., Christchurch, New Zealand. ☎(03) 342-7474.
- **New Zealand Native Orchid Group**, 22 Orchard St., Wadestown, Wellington, New Zealand.

Australian Native Orchids and Ferns

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